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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

Memoirs of the Reign of George the Third. By Horace Walpole. From the Original Manuscripts. Edited, with Notes, by Sir Denis Le Marchant, Bart. 2 vols. 8vo. R. Bentley.

We have had so often to offer our opinion on the writings of Horace Walpole, that we will not now trouble our readers at any length. With his party affections and antipathies, and his political adherences and prejudices, he would be an unsafe guide by whose oracles we should be led for true history; but still he is a shining light where we have corroborating testimony, and his development of private motives and intrigues frequently affords us the best clue we can have to public transactions and the parts played in them by prominent characters. We can see in the acts and their results the confirmation of what he tells us were the feelings and grounds which concurred in producing them. But we will leave his politics, and even his own personal reputation, to be canvassed by our larger political reviews, whether disproving and cutting up, or approving and lauding; whilst we address ourselves chiefly to what has been and ever will be the magnet of his popularity, viz. his piquant anecdote and gossiping intelligence, which make us so familiar with the men and the circumstances of the period to which they refer. In these respects Walpole is unmatched and unmatchable. His position in and length of life afforded him more abundant opportunities than were, perhaps, ever enjoyed by any other individual; and he seems to have been formed by nature to make the best use of them. The present volumes, the moiety of his memoirs of the first twelve years of the reign of the third George (closing the author's historical lucubrations), afford ample proof of his possessing the qualities we have indicated, and not failing to exercise them here. Any further cursory remarks we have to offer will accompany our quotations, as we select them for the edification and entertainment of our readers—such is our purpose, and no regular disquisition.

Walpole tells us that these are *memoirs*, not *history*; and, at the commencement, has the following observations on the difference:

"How far I have been in the right or in the wrong I leave, to the judgment of posterity, who shall be impartially informed; and who may draw some benefit from the knowledge of what I have seen; though few persons, I believe, profit much from history. Times seldom resemble one another enough to be very applicable; and if they do, the characters of the actors are very different. They, too, who read history most, are seldom performers in the political drama. Yet they who have performed any part in it are at least able to give the best account of it, though still an imperfect one. No man is acquainted with the whole plot; as no man knows all the secret springs of the actions of others. His passions and prejudices warp his judgment, and cast a mist before the most penetrating sagacity. Yet, partial as the narratives of the actors must be, they will certainly approach nearer to truth than those of spectators, who, beholding nothing but events,

pretend to account for them from causes which they can but suppose, and which frequently never existed. It is this assistance to history which I now offer, and by which I may explain some passages, which might otherwise never be cleared up."

The alternative seems to be; which are we to believe most or credit least? Fallacies and misrepresentations must abound in both; but we agree with Walpole, that the grains of truth are more likely to abound in the chaff of *Memoir* and contemporary Correspondence than in the philosophico-romance of history. The former will be disfigured by suspicions, selfishness, gratified or disappointed ambition, and a hundred other causes which lead men to see the same things in white or black; but the latter must be a fable, constructed on data very imperfectly known, and framed according to the foregone conclusions of the author. The ascent of the king to the throne is graphically told, and is, we think, most unjust to the royal memory.

"The first moment of the new reign afforded a symptom of the prince's character; of that cool dissimulation in which he had been so well initiated by his mother, and which comprehended almost the whole of what she had taught him. Princess Amalie, as soon as she was certain of her father's death, sent an account of it to the Prince of Wales; but he had already been apprised of it. He was riding, and received a note from a German *valet de chambre*, attendant on the late king, with a private mark agreed upon between them, which certified him of the event. Without surprise or emotion, without dropping a word that indicated what had happened, he said his horse was lame, and turned back to Kew. At dismounting, he said to the groom, 'I have said this horse is lame; I forbid you to say the contrary.' Mr. Pitt was the first who arrived at Kensington, and went to Princess Amalie for her orders. She told him nobody could give him better counsel than his own. He asked if he ought not to go to the prince: she replied she could not advise him, but thought it would be right. He went. I mention these little circumstances because they shew, from Mr. Pitt's uncertainty, that he was possessed with none of the confidence and ardour of a man who thinks himself a favourite. From Kew the new king went directly to Carleton House, which belonged to the princess dowager; ordering his servants and the privy council to wait for him at Saville House, then his own residence; and adjoining to Leicester House, where the princess usually lived. The Duke of Cumberland went to Leicester House, and waited two hours; but was sent for, as soon as the king knew it, to Carleton House, where he determined to stay, and avoid the parade and acclamation of passing through the streets; at the same time dismissing the guards, and ordering them to attend the body of his grandfather. To the Duke of Cumberland he marked great kindness, and told him it had not been common in their family to live well together, but he was determined to live well with all his family. And he carried this attention so far as to take notice to the duke,

after council, that his friend Mr. Fox looked in great health. And again, when the privy council had made their address to his majesty by the mouth of the archbishop, it not being thought decent that the compliment on the death of his father should be uttered by the duke, the king remarked it, and expressed an apprehension that they had put a slight upon his uncle. Nor would he suffer the name of his brother, the Duke of York, to be mentioned in the public prayers, because it must have taken place of that of the Duke of Cumberland. At that first council the king spoke to nobody in particular but his former governor, Lord Waldegrave. His speech to them he made with dignity and propriety. In whatever related to his predecessor, he behaved with singular attention and decency, refusing at first to give the word to the guard, and then only renewing what the late king had given. He sent to Princess Amalie to know where her father's will was deposited. She said one copy had been entrusted to her eight or nine years before; but, thinking the king had forgotten it, she had lately put him in mind of it: he had replied, 'Did not she know that, when a new will was made, it cancelled all preceding?' No curiosity, no eagerness, no haste, was expressed by the new king on that head, nor the smallest impediment thrown in the way of his grandfather's intentions. A gentleman* of the bedchamber was immediately dismissed, who refused to sit up with the body, as is usual. Wilmot and Ranby, the late king's physician and surgeon, acquainted the king with two requests of their master, which were punctually complied with. They were, that his body might be embalmed as soon as possible, and a double quantity of perfumes used; and that the side of the late queen's coffin, left loose on purpose, might be taken away, and his body laid close to hers."

Another story of his earlier years has frequently been mentioned, but we do not remember ought so circumstantially:—

"The king was fallen in love with Lady Sarah Lennox, sister of the Duke of Richmond; a very young lady of the most blooming beauty, and shining with all the graces of unaffected but animated nature. What concurred to make her formidable to the mother and favourite was, her being under the tutorage of Mr. Fox, her eldest sister's husband; and, in truth, she and her family spared no assiduity to fix the young monarch's heart. And though Fox would probably not have been scrupulous or delicate on the terms of cementing that union, the king's overtures were so encouraging, that Fox's views extended even to placing the young lady on the throne. Early in the winter, the king told Lady Susan Strangways, Mr. Fox's niece, and the confidant of Lady Sarah, that he hoped she (Lady Susan) would not go out of town soon. She said, she should. 'But,' replied the king, 'you will return in summer, for the coronation?' Lady Susan answered, 'I do not know; I hope so.' 'But,' said the king again, 'they talk of a wedding. There have been many

* "Mr. Clavering; he was a near relative of a north-country baronet of the same name."

proposals; but I think an English match would do better than a foreign one. Pray tell Lady Sarah Lenox I say so.' The next time Lady Sarah came to court (and her family took care that should not be seldom) the king said, 'he hoped Lady Susan had told her his last conversation.' The juno was not blind to these whispers and dialogues. Lady Bute was instructed to endeavour to place herself in the circle and prevent them. And the Princess Augusta marked her observation of what was going forward to Lady Sarah herself, laughing in her face, and trying to affront her. But Fox was not to be so rebuffed. Though he went himself to bathe in the sea (possibly to disguise his intrigues), he left Lady Sarah at Holland House, where she appeared every morning in a field close to the great road (where the king passed on horseback) in a fancied habit, making hay. Such mutual propensity fixed the resolution of the princess. One Colonel Graeme was despatched in the most private manner as a traveller, and vested with no character, to visit various little Protestant courts, and make report of the qualifications of the several unmarried princesses. Beauty, and still less talents, were not, it is likely, the first object of his instructions. On the testimony of this man, the golden apple was given to the princess of Mecklenburg; and the marriage precipitately concluded. The ambassador was too remarkable not to be farther mentioned. This Graeme, then, was a notorious Jacobite, and had been engaged in the late rebellion. On a visit he made to Scotland, his native country, after this embassy, David Hume, the historian, said to him, 'Colonel Graeme, I congratulate you on having exchanged the dangerous employment of making kings for the more lucrative province of making queens.'

The king's marriage speedily followed, and some of the particulars stated by Walpole are very interesting.

"On the 7th of September, the new queen landed at Harwich. Lord Harcourt, whose peace had been made by Lord Talbot, had been sent to fetch her, with the duchesses of Ancaster and Hamilton; but as an earnest of the prison prepared for her, and to keep her in that state of ignorance which was essential to the views of the princess, they were forbidden to see her alone. Her mother, who died during the treaty of marriage, ordered her to put herself entirely into the hands of the princess. Mrs. Katherine Dashwood, of a Jacobite family, and intimate of lady Bute, was destined to live in the palace. No privy purse was allowed to the queen, but Mr. Stone received twenty thousand pounds a-year to pay her servants. She had been educated in that strict course of piety, which in Germany reaches to superstition; a habit in which she was encouraged to such a degree, that when the king visited his mother, which he soon, at the desire of the princess, began to do, without the queen, she was afraid of staying alone, and retired to her two German women; her English ladies not being suffered to keep her company. Yet this weakness seemed solely the result of a bad education. Her temper appeared to be lively, and her understanding sensible and quick. Great good nature, set off by much grace in her manner, recommended all she said. Her person was small, and very lean, but well made. Her face pale and homely, her nose something flat, her mouth very large. Her hair was of a fine brown, and her countenance pleasing. When first she saw the palace, she trembled. The Duchess of Hamilton smiled. The queen said, 'You may laugh; you have

been married twice; but it is no joke to me.' The king received her in the garden of St. James's; she would have knelt, but he raised and embraced her, and led her to the princess, where they and Lady Augusta dined together. Between nine and ten at night they went to chapel. The Duke of Cumberland gave her away; and after the ceremony they appeared for a few minutes in the drawing-room, and then went to supper. She played and sung, for music was her passion, but she loved other amusements too, and had been accustomed to them; but excepting her music, all the rest were retrenched; nor was she ever suffered to play at cards, which she loved. While she was dressing, she was told the king liked some particular manner of dress. She said, 'Let him dress himself; I shall dress as I please.' They told her he liked early hours; she replied, she did not, and 'qu'elle ne voulait pas se coucher avec les poules.' A few weeks taught her how little power she had acquired with a crown. The affection she conceived for the king softened the rigour of her captivity. Yet now and then a sigh stole out, and now and then she attempted, though in vain, to enlarge her restraint. What must have penetrated deeper, was, that policy did not seem to be the sole motive of the mortifications she endured. At times there entered a little wantonness of power into the princess's treatment of her. The king made her frequent presents of magnificent jewels; and as if diamonds were empire, she was never allowed to appear in public without them. The first time she received the sacrament she begged not to wear them, one pious command of her mother having been, not to use jewels at her first communion. The king indulged her; but Lady Augusta carrying this tale to her mother, the princess obliged the king to insist on the jewels, and the poor young queen's tears and terrors could not dispense with her obedience."

At the ensuing coronation it is related:

"As ord steward, Lord Talbot composed part of that ridiculous pageant at the coronation, the entry of the champion. So fond was Lord Talbot of his share in this mummery, that he rehearsed his part on his steed in Westminster-hall, and carried his new Bishop of London to be witness of his feats. The Duke of York calling Hayter, who was lame, up to the *haut pas*, which he ascended with difficulty, the bishop said, 'You see, sir, how hard it is for me to get a step.' When the day came, Lord Talbot piqued himself on not turning his back to the king, and produced a strange hubbub of laughter by trying to force his horse to retire backwards out of the hall. With the city, with the knights of the bath, and the barons of the cinque ports, Lord Talbot had various squabbles, by retrenching their tables at the coronation. Beckford told him it was hard if the citizens should have no dinner, when they were to give the king one, which would cost them ten thousand pounds. This menace prevailed. Sir William Stanhope, brother of Lord Chesterfield, a man of not less wit and of more ill-nature than his elder, said, 'it was an affront to the knights of the bath; for some of us,' added he, 'are gentlemen.' It was a more bitter speech he made against the Scotch and their protectress. 'He would not go to court,' he said, 'for fear of the itch, which would reduce him to go to the princess's court for brimstone.' To the barons of the cinque ports Lord Talbot said, 'if they came to him as lord steward, their request could not be granted; if as Lord Talbot, he was a match for any of them.' This boisterous and absurd behaviour drew aside

much odium from the favourite; but as puppet-shows were not exhibited every day, the zany was forgotten, and the hisses of the mob soon fastened on the principal performer."

Connected with the accession, we may class the royal visit to the city on Lord Mayor's day, respecting which Walpole informs us:

"The decency of Lord Temple's prelude to new opposition soon changed its hue in a manner more suited to his factious turbulence. On the 9th, the king and all the royal family dined in the city with the lord mayor. Thither, too, went Mr. Pitt and Lord Temple in a chariot together,—a step justly censured, and very nearly productive of fatal consequences. To them all acclamations were addressed; and the distinctions paid in the Guildhall to Mr. Pitt, to the total neglect of the king, bestowed all the honour of the triumph on the former. Little was wanting to turn the pageant into a tragedy. Riots ensued, and many persons were insulted. The favourite had taken the precaution of having a guard of butchers and bruisers; and by the defence of that convoy alone escaped mischief. Sir Samuel Fludyer, the lord mayor, caused diligent inquiry to be made into the proceedings of the day, and learned that Beckford himself had visited several public-houses over night, and had appointed ringleaders to different stations, and had been the first to raise the huzza in the hall on the entrance of Mr. Pitt. His joining himself to a pomp dedicated to a court that he had just quitted, was not decent. The ambition of drawing to himself the homage of the people was not modest. To offer himself as an incentive to civil tumult, and to how dangerous consequences he could not tell, was not a symptom of very innocent intentions."

The statues to Pitt and Beckford, of their day's political cast, yet adorn, and will long adorn; the Guildhall. Yet times are much changed in courtly as well as other affairs since then; for we read of Queen Charlotte:

"The queen, who bore great affection to her brothers, was desirous that the second, Prince Charles of Mecklenburgh, should come over. The king would not venture to propose it to Lord Bute, but wrote to him; and after a reluctance of a fortnight on the part of the favourite, the boon was granted."

We make little now-a-days of emperors and kings visiting us; and as for princes, *et cetera*, they are as common and acceptable as blackberries. With regard to Ireland, may we not hope that as great an alteration has taken place, and will soon be more solidly manifested? for this is Walpole's picture of other times:

"The jealousy of commerce had ever swayed England to keep that kingdom in a state of humiliation and restraint, consequently of poverty. The lowest class of people in no country less enjoyed the sweets of being; and in no country sought less to emerge from their state of barbarism. Proud and slothful, they created a kind of dignity to themselves from inactivity. To labour no more than noblemen, was a sort of nobility; and ignorance of a happier fate was happiness. They preserved their ancient poetry and traditional genealogies; hated the English settled amongst them as invaders, and necessarily were bigoted to their old superstitions in opposition to the religion of their masters. In short, they wanted but luxury to have all the passions and prejudices of great lords. A considerable part of the island was plunged in this dismal darkness and misery. As a spirit of opposition and independence had spread amongst the Protestant inhabitants, a spirit of improvement had gone forth too. Manufactures were established, roads and bridges made, and rivers

rendered navigable. Enclosures for cultivation of lands had followed. Occupation of commons seemed usurpation to a race of lazy savages; and the first murmurs were carefully blown up to rage by their priests. A massacre had been the last instance in which the Catholics of Ireland had had any superiority; and Popish priests are historians enough to be ignorant of no such era. It was the cause of property to throw down enclosures; of heaven to cut the throats of enclosures; and of France and Spain to promote the good work. The tumults, however, began upon the single foot of their grievances. Great insurrections appeared in Waterford, the chief improvements having been made upon the Burlington estate. The rabble soon distinguished itself by the name of White Boys; and their instructors, to veil one nonsense under a greater, taught them to give out that they were subject to the Queen of the Fairies, whom they called Sieve Olugh, in whose name their manifestoes were signed. It appeared afterwards on the trials of some of their chiefs, that this fairy sovereign resided at Versailles. French officers were discovered among them; and during the Duke of Bedford's regency, a rising had actually been made in the same quarter just as Thurot landed. After many outrages they proceeded to cruelty, and buried three persons up to their chins who had declared they knew the ring-leaders. As their numbers and impunity increased, so did their insolence: they obliged the town of Lismore to hang out lights, and forced a justice of peace to fix up a proclamation by which they regulated the price of provisions, and forbade any cheese to be made till after Lent, that the poor might have the milk—a proof that the devotees of the Queen of the Fairies, and of the Virgin Mary, were equally attached to the observation of the fast. For six weeks this insurrection was neglected; and two regiments of dragoons, that were sent against them, proved unequal to the work. At last the House of Commons took up the affair, and foot being ordered out against the seditious, the matter was quashed, though not entirely suppressed till the Earl of Hertford was lord lieutenant, who refusing to pardon some of the chiefs, notwithstanding very considerable intercession, an end was put to the affair—but unless that country is more civilised and reclaimed from barbarism, or better guarded before another war breaks out, it will probably be selected by France and Spain for the first scene of their operations."

Mentioning the Romish faith, we may not inappropriately introduce an anecdote of Sir Francis Dashwood, when made chancellor of the exchequer, in a note by the editor. He had travelled much in his youth, and Sir Denis says that, when at Rome:—"It was on Good Friday, when each person who attends the service in the Sistine chapel, as he enters, takes a small scourge from an attendant at the door. The chapel is dimly lighted, and there are three candles which are extinguished by the priest, one by one: at the putting out of the first, the penitents take off one part of their dress; at the next, still more; and, in the darkness which follows the extinguishing of the third candle, lay on their own shoulders, with groans and lamentations. Sir Francis Dashwood, thinking this mere stage effect, entered with others, dressed in a large watchman's coat; demurely took his scourge from the priest, and advanced to the end of the chapel; where, on the darkness ensuing, he drew from beneath his coat an English horsewhip, and flogged right and left quite down the chapel, and made his escape, the congregation exclaiming, *Il diavolo! il diavolo!* and

thinking the evil one was upon them with a vengeance! The consequences of this frolic might have been serious to him, had he not immediately fled the Papal dominions."

And Walpole describes him thus:—

"Men were puzzled to guess at the motive of so improper a choice as this of Sir Francis Dashwood. The banner of religion was displayed at court, and yet all the centurions were culled from the most profligate societies. Sir Francis had long been known by his singularity and some humour. In his early youth, accoutred like Charles the Twelfth, he had travelled to Russia in hopes of captivating the Czarina; but neither the character nor dress of Charles were well imagined to catch a woman's heart. In Italy, Sir Francis had given in to the most open profaneness; and, at his return, had assembled a society of Young Travellers, to which a taste for the arts and antiquity, or merely having travelled, were the recommendatory ingredients. Their pictures were drawn, ornamented with symbols and devices; and the founder, in the habit of St. Francis, and with a chalice in his hand, was represented at his devotions before a statue of the Venus of Medicis, a stream of glory beaming on him from behind her lower hand. These pictures were long exhibited in their club-room at a tavern in Palace Yard; but of later years Saint Francis had instituted a more select order. He and some chosen friends had hired the ruins of Medenham Abbey, near Marlow, and refitted it in a conventual style. Thither at stated seasons they adjourned; had each their cell, a proper habit, a monastic name, and a refectory in common—besides a chapel, the decorations of which may well be supposed to have contained the quintessence of their mysteries, since it was impenetrable to any but the initiated. Whatever their doctrines were, their practice was rigorously pagan: Bacchus and Venus were the deities to whom they almost publicly sacrificed. The old Lord Melcomb was one of the brotherhood. Yet their follies would have escaped the eye of the public if Lord Bute, from this seminary of piety and wisdom, had not selected a chancellor of the exchequer. But politics had no sooner infused themselves amongst these rosy anchorites than dissensions were kindled; and a false brother arose who divulged the arcana, and exposed the good prior, in order to ridicule him as minister of the finances."

This refers to the famous Dilettante Society; of which the supercilious Walpole appears to have been exceedingly envious; so true it is that two of a trade can seldom agree. To Lord Bute he is not altogether unjust; yet throughout there is an equal disposition to depreciate him; but his character has long been clearing itself from the vulgar obloquy which faction inflamed against it, and history is restoring him to his rights. And this is political—so be it: we will add a few selections from our author of the same class, though of anecdotal spirit. In a debate in the Commons, on the abolition of the observance of King Charles' martyrdom: "It was overruled by the house; however, it produced a very bold and extraordinary speech from Calvert; he drew a picture of a fictitious family in Surrey, whom he called the Steadys, describing two old Steadys and a young one; with a very particular account of young Steady's mother, and of her improper intimacy with a Scotch gardener—he hoped the true friends of young Steady would advise him to recall his old friends, and turn away the Scotch gardener. No reply was made, for none could be made, without carrying the application too home."

"In the discussion of these ways and means,

George Grenville complained that men objected to laying burdens on the sinking fund, and called rather for new taxes. He wished gentlemen would shew him where to lay them. Repeating this question in his querulous, languid, fatiguing tone, Pitt, who sat opposite to him, mimicking his accent aloud, repeated these words of an old ditty, 'Gentle shepherd, tell me where' and then rising, abused Grenville bitterly. He had no sooner finished than Grenville started up in a transport of rage, and said, if gentlemen were to be treated with that contempt—Pitt was walking out of the house, but at that word turned round, made a sneering bow to Grenville, and departed. The latter had provoked him by stating the profusions of the war. There is use in recording this anecdote: the appellation of 'the gentle shepherd' long stuck by Grenville; he is mentioned by it in many of the writings on the stamp act, and in other pamphlets and political prints of the time."

When Lord Bute suddenly resigned, Walpole says, "I have mentioned how utterly Fox was disconcerted at this unexpected resignation. His first movement was to press Lord Bute to retain the treasury, at least for six months. That attempt was fruitless. His next step was to secure his own peerage. Again was he astonished to be told that he had agreed to cede the Pay-office on going into the House of Lords. This he peremptorily denied. But he had dealt with a worthy pupil of his own. Lord Shelburne, who had negotiated between him and Lord Bute, when Fox undertook the conduct of the House of Commons, had told the earl that Fox would quit the Pay-office for a peerage; but Fox had only stipulated to give his support for that reward. He now broke out against his scholar, reproached him for concealing Lord Bute's intention of retiring, and spoke of Shelburne to every body as a perfidious and infamous liar; those were his usual words. The probability was, that Shelburne intended to slip into the Pay-office himself. The favourite, who would have declared Fox his successor, excused Lord Shelburne to him, and, in his pedantic style, called the secrecy he had observed a pious fraud; for Fox, he said, he knew would not have engaged in the management of the parliament, had he been apprised that he (Bute) intended to retire, and it had been necessary to the king's affairs that Fox should carry them through the session. This very offer of the treasury to Fox shewed how little the favourite had taken any measures for carrying on his master's business for the future, and corroborates the presumption that a sudden panic was the immediate cause of his retreat." * * *

"Fox obtained his barony, and retained his place, but not without experiencing such a scene of ingratitude as could scarce happen but to a man who had selected his friends more for their utility than their merit. In the discussion, and during the defending and proving what he had or had not said relative to the session of the paymaster's place, Calcraft,† his

* "The best defence of his resignation is given by Mr. Adolphus, vol. i. p. 115, from private information. It by no means exculpates him from the charges in the text, and is also at variance with the statement of a writer who lived on terms of the closest intimacy with the Bute family. M. Duteus says, 'That he resigned because he was disgusted with the bustle of business, indignant at the behaviour of those who endeavoured to obtain his favour, at the baseness of some, and the duplicity of others.'—*Memoirs of a Traveller, now in Retirement*, vol. iv. p. 181. This corresponds with all that has transpired of Lord Bute's character."

† John Calcraft began with being clerk in the

own creature, his cousin, raised from extreme indigence and obscurity to enormous wealth, to opulence so excessive that the vast number of regiments to which he was agent, and the outrageous plurality of places he held, were universally believed to be deposited with him only for Fox's use,* took part with Lord Shelburne, and witnessed to the latter's tale. Fox ordered Calcraft to make up his accounts, dismissed him worth near 300,000*l.*; and, though so rich himself, grew almost justified; and, though so hated, grew almost pitied: but this was not all. The man he most loved was Rigby; and, though Fox had not crammed him with wealth in the same lavish guise with which he had enriched Calcraft, he had assisted in Rigby's promotions, and wished to push him forwards, and to be strictly connected with him in every political walk. In the height of his quarrel with Shelburne and Calcraft, Fox, walking along St. James's Street, met and stopped Rigby's chariot, and, leaning on the door of it, began to vent his complaints; when the other, unprovoked and unconcerned in the dispute, interrupted him with these stunning sounds, 'You tell your story of Shelburne; he has a damned one to tell of you; I do not trouble myself which is the truth;—and pushing him aside, ordered his coachman to drive away. From that moment Rigby became the enemy of Fox.'†

On Wilkes's embroilment we have a shocking statement of the profligacy of the age. In seizing his papers, a copy of his (and Potter's) shameful poem, the "Essay on Woman," was found, and brought under the notice of the peers by Lord Sandwich; and we are told:

"Now did Sandwich, who had hugged this mischief for months in his breast, lay open the precious poem before his brother lords in strains of more hypocrisy than would have been tolerable even in a professed methodist. Parts of it were read, most coarsely and disgustingly blasphemous. Lord Lyttelton groaned in spirit, and begged they might hear no more. Bishop Warburton, who had not the luck, like Lord Lyttelton, to have his conversion believed by any one, foamed with the violence of a Saint Dominic; vaunted that he had combated infidelity, and laid it under his feet; and said, the blackest fiends in hell would not keep company with Wilkes, and then begged Satan's pardon for comparing them together. Lord Temple had got no intelligence of this bomb, and knew little what to say; but concluding, justly, that the piece had been found among Wilkes's papers, condemned the means by which it was obtained. It was instantly voted blasphemous, and a breach of privilege against the person of the Bishop of Gloucester. Lord Sandwich then moved that Wilkes should

be voted the author; but even Lord Mansfield condemned so hasty and arbitrary a course, and said it was previously necessary to hear the accused person in his own defence; on which the proceeding was adjourned to the next day but one. I was in a division in the lobby of the House of Commons, when I heard what was passing in the other house, and immediately informed Mr. Pitt. He replied with indignation, 'Why do not they search the Bishop of Gloucester's study for heresy?'

"Events now thickened so fast, that to avoid confusion, I will here say a little more on this head. The plot so hopefully laid to blow up Wilkes, and ruin him in the estimation of all the decent and grave, had, at least in the latter respect, scarce any effect at all. The treachery was so gross and scandalous, so revengeful, and so totally unconnected with the political conduct of Wilkes, and the instruments so despicable, odious, or in whom any pretensions to decency, sanctimony, or faith, were so preposterous, that, losing all sight of the scandal contained in the poem, the whole world almost united in crying out against the informers. Sandwich, in opening the discovery, had canted till his own friends could not keep their countenances. Sir Francis Dashwood was not more notorious for singing profane and lewd catches; and what aggravated the hypocrisy, scarce a fortnight had passed since this holy secretary of state himself had been present with Wilkes at a weekly club to which both belonged, held at the top of Covent Garden Theatre, and composed of players and the loosest revellers of the age. Warburton's part was only ridiculous, and was heightened by its being known that Potter, his wife's gallant, had had the chief hand in the composition of the verses. However, an intimacy commenced between the bishop and Sandwich, and some jovial dinners and libations of champagne cemented their friendship. Kidgell, the jackall, published so precise, affected, and hypocritical account of the transaction, that he, who might have escaped in the gloom of the treachery, completely blasted his own reputation; and falling into debt, was, according to the fate of inferior tools, abandoned by his masters, and forced to fly his country. Though the rank and fortune of Sandwich saved him from disgrace of that kind, he had little reason to exult in his machination. He brought a stigma on himself that counterweighted many of his own views and arts; and Churchill the poet has branded his name on this account with lasting colours. The public indignation went so far, that the 'Beggars Opera' being performed at Covent Garden Theatre soon after this event, the whole audience, when Macheath says, 'That *Jemmy Twitche* should peach me, *I own surprises me*,' burst out into an applause of application; and the nick-name of *Jemmy Twitche* stuck by the earl so as almost to occasion the disuse of his title."

Travels in Kordofan; embracing a Description of that Province of Egypt, and of some of the bordering Countries; with a Review of the present state of the Commerce in those Countries, of the Habits and Customs of the Inhabitants, as also an Account of the Slave-hunts taking place under the Government of Mehemet Ali. By Ignatius Pallme. 8vo, pp. 356. London, Madden and Co.

THE result of a careful perusal of Mr. Pallme's account of Kordofan (or more properly, Kurd'ufan), the best that has been yet published, is that, in its warring tribes of various races, its misgovernment, its slavery, its malpractices, its unhealthiness, its physical disadvantages

and insect plagues, it is one of the most unfortunate territories under the sun—that sun being also very high an intertropical one.

Forming part of the Beled-es-Sudan, or "the country of the blacks," the aborigines, now nearly extirpated, were negroes of Nubian race; first reduced in 1779 by the Arabs of Sinar or Sennaar, afterwards by the sultan of Darfur, when the country became populated by Arab tribes and mixed races from both countries, as well as by people from Dunkulah; till, in 1821, it was reduced by the Egyptian troops under the duft'urdar, son-in-law of Mehemet Ali.

The numerous instances of wanton brutality and unfeeling cruelty of this governor, given by Pallme, are almost without example; and surpass one another in their atrocity. "One case will suffice in evidence. At the feast of the Bairam all the servants and saïs (grooms), eighteen in number, went before the duft'urdar to offer their congratulations according to custom, and begged at the same time for a pair of new shoes. 'You shall have them,' said he. He now had the farrier called, and commanded him to make eighteen pairs of horse-shoes, to be nailed to the soles of the feet of each of the eighteen servants, without mercy. Nine of them died, in a short time, of mortification; he then had the survivors unshod, and consigned them to the care of a medical man."

There is, however, another case, which we must extract on account of its interest to the history of rabies. It is the case of a rabid man.

"A saï, or groom, whose office is, according to custom in Egypt, to run before the rider, was incapable of keeping up with the duft'urdar, from absolute fatigue, in a long and quick trot. The tyrant struck him with his whip to quicken his pace. The unfortunate man—who was, however, quite exhausted, as may be supposed—did not become more active after this remedy had been applied. For this crime the unnatural barbarian had his feet bound to the tail of a horse, and ordered the animal to be driven through the streets of Lobeid by two other saïs. The unhappy groom would no doubt have met with his death in this manner, were not the streets paved merely with fine sand: thus he received many wounds, but none which proved mortal. The horse, unaccustomed to such usage, turned suddenly round, and struck at the unfortunate saïs, who, in desperation, seized the animal with all his remaining strength by the head, and, to save himself, bit into its upper lip. No attention was at first paid to this slight wound; but in a short time the head of the horse began to swell, and it eventually died. The saïs, who was covered with wounds, however, survived the torture."

The country of Kordofan, taken in a general view, is an alternation of flat and mountain, with no flowing rivers, except the temporary streams of the rainy season, but with a few lakes and oases (wadiyah) with fertile soil between, or, as Pallme has it: "a cluster of small and large oases, which are not far distant from each other." In the rainy season vegetation springs up as if by magic, and is very prolific. At this season there is no hut in which there are not at least several sick. In the dry season there is nothing but desolate and parched plains; the plants are burnt up, the trees lose their leaves, and it is impossible for any breathing creature to remain in the open air. In this season also frightful hurricanes arise, which destroy human and animal life, and tear up houses, fences, and trees. In addition to these physical disadvantages

War-office at 40*l.* a-year. [He was a very shrewd, intelligent man, and gained great popularity with the army by his liberal conduct and hospitality to the officers.]

• "This charge is entirely unfounded. Had there been any truth in it, the connexion between Mr. Fox and Mr. Calcraft would not have been so easily dissolved."

† "It is in reference to Mr. Rigby's conduct that Lord Holland probably alludes to the following passage of a letter to Mr. Selwyn, of October 3, 1763: 'I drop all politics that may not go by the post, till I see you, when I will tell you all I know of them, with the trait I mentioned. Had it been from a political friend, only, I should be ashamed to be hurt by it. No politics will or can mortify me; I thought this man's friendship had not been only political. I loved him; and whether to feel or not to feel, to despise or grieve, on such an occasion, be most worthy of a man. I won't dispute; but the fact is, that I have been, and still am, whenever I think of it, very unhappy.'—*Selwyn Correspondence*, vol. i. p. 267."

and resulting sickness and suffering, whole villages are carried away when an insect happens to infest the neighbourhood, and renders residence in a certain district insupportable. This animal is the tick (the *Ricinus* of the family of *Ornithomyces* of naturalists), and the same animal which is so carefully fed by the amir of Bokhara, wherewith to torture his prisoners. It harbours in the sand, whence it issues to attack those who may happen to sit down. "The camels," says Pallme, "stand in great awe of it, immediately take flight, and cannot be made to stop in a place where it is met with." If its bite is so severe as to be thus felt through the thick hide of a camel, what must it be to man?

A fly called *juhara* is, however, a still greater plague, and influences the fortunes of the people. Camels cannot live in Shilluk, Shabun, and other countries where it abounds; and it is the cause of the tribes leaving those parts of the country which are safe for them and otherwise advantageous for their cattle, and forces them to deliver themselves into the hands of the Turks.

Pallme estimates the total population of Kordofan at 400,000 souls, excluding the nomadic tribes. The capital is El Obaid, "the little slave," written Lobaid in Pallme. The province is now governed by a bey, who resides at the capital, and by five kashifs or captains, who have each their separate district. The bey is under the pasha of Khartum, "the proboscis," so called from its being at the junction of two rivers, and which is now the actual capital of the whole of the Beled-es-Sudan.

The revenue consists of the ordinary taxes and in the levy of custom-duties, but without any fixed scale; and, as throughout all anterior Asia, the pasha, beys, and subalterns, down to the collectors, have all to be satisfied, as well as the head government. The people are hence reduced to such abject poverty that they cannot pay the taxes in specie, and the revenue has to be collected in the persons of the people or slaves, in cattle when they have any, or in grain if they are agricultural. This comprises the whole history of their present condition with respect to their paternal government; but it leaves to be still noticed their combats among themselves, which are also to be added to their already numerous physical disasters, and political prostitution.

Kordofan being the centre of the existing slave-trade in the East, it is also from its capital that issue the eunuchs to supply the harems of Muhammedanism. But they have among themselves also malpractices almost as disgraceful to humanity. The habits and customs of the people of Kordofan form, indeed, a very remarkable chapter in the history of the human race, and Pallme has given it in a clear, succinct, and intelligible language. He corroborates what Holroyd had already told us, that on killing an animal they eat the tripe and intestines raw and hot. The Dunkulah people settle their quarrels by a combat with whips. In such a climate all anoint the body; the choice pomatum of the women being prepared with the celebrated spikenard, the fruit of the perfumed cherry, and a Red-Sea shell called tuffer by Pallme, dhofer by Burekhardt, and dufr by Brown.

[To be continued.]

The Ice-Book, &c. By Thomas Masters. 8vo, pp. 200. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co. The title-page assures us that this is a compendious history of every thing connected with

Ice; yet takes no notice of the late or present hard frost, of the skating and sliding in the parks, nor of the exertions of the Humane Society for the Preservation of Fools, in dragging out the individuals who take accidental cold baths in these pleasant resorts for wintry pastimes. But it makes known the merits of a patent for the artificial freezing of ice for family uses; and gives instructions for making cream and water ices for deserts. Not having any experience on either point, we must leave the patentee to tell his own tale; and the ices for those who may have the fortune to meet with and like them as preparatives for liqueurs and post-prandial wines. On so cold a subject we may notice, the language of the author is dangerously warm and glowing—almost enough to make "hot ice and wondrous strange snow" (we would put up a warning as on the Serpentine, "very hazardous here").

"Art (he says) has dared to imitate nature in the production of its most wonderful phenomena, and ice, once the sole produce of her mighty laboratory, has been made by the skill and enterprise of her subject—man. In the midst of summer, on the boundary of the equator, and beneath the zenith itself, can be now produced this wonderful substance, from which, in a few minutes, can be made the most delicious beverages that the world numbers amidst its luxuries. . . . The transformations narrated in the 'Arabian Nights,' those gorgeous repositories of Eastern legendary lore, are not more marvellous or more speedy than the change of a liquid body to a block of solid ice. . . . The progress of improvement may indeed be described as having reached its climax."

To Mr. Thomas Masters are the inhabitants of the earth indebted for this transcendent achievement; and we have only to express a hope that he may allow his genius in this line to travel from the mechanical and physical into the moral world. Where kindness freezes and hearts are cold, where chilling looks and icy feelings prevail, instead of charity, benevolence, cordiality, and generosity; could he invent a machine, and by altering the temperature convert these into luxuries of life, he would indeed be a benefactor of his kind, and deserve a patent above all that was ever granted. But we fear that neither art nor artificial means can accomplish this; and, in the present condition of our social nature, there is a sad and lamentable preponderance of the selfishness and severity of winter. The milk of human kindness has become as sour and frosty as a lemon cream; for every body is fighting how best to slide on, without caring who are tripped up in the struggle. And when there is a tumble, is not there a laugh? the louder and more general, the more heavy and wide-spread the witnessed fall.

We are afraid the ingenious Mr. Masters can do nothing to effect the desirable alteration by reversing his apparatus; and we have therefore only to wish him success with what he has done, which, as far as we can make out, is very practicable, convenient, and luxurious.

Views of Canada and the Colonists: embracing the Experience of a Residence; Views of the present State, Progress, and Prospects of the Colony; with detailed and practical Information for intending Emigrants. By a Four-Years' Resident. 12mo; pp. 266. Edinburgh, A. and C. Black; London, Longmans. We consider this to be a very practical, straightforward, and trustworthy book; a faithful representation of one of England's most important colonies, and one which presents the most

natural attractions to emigration. It relates to a tract of the finest land in Canada, lying close upon the head of Lake Ontario, and stretching along Lake Erie westward towards the northern end of Lake Huron. But *ex uno disce omnes*; and those interested in the subject may learn from this account of the western parts of the province much that is equally applicable to all the rest. Having said these few words, we shall simply detach from the more exact details a few examples of the good sense and steady observation of the writer, from which a general idea of prominent circumstances may be gathered. For further information we refer to the volume itself; prefixed to which there is a fair map on a small scale.

Sketching the settlement of the "District of London," we are told the population consists of—

Natives of England . . .	2828
" Scotland . . .	2979
" Ireland . . .	3085
" Canada . . .	18,290
" Ditto, of French origin . . .	71
" United States . . .	2225
" Continent of Europe . . .	269
Total population (1842) . . .	29,637

"Of the African, or coloured population, as they are generally called, who are chiefly, if not altogether, from the United States, and a considerable portion of them liberated or run-away slaves, there are 223 males and 77 females—a proportion which of itself tells something of the manner of their coming here. Having had little or no opportunities of gaining even the first elements of education or correct moral training, the greater part of these people find only employment of the most inferior kind. Those who have not been able to procure land live about the towns, generally gaining a subsistence by cutting wood for fuel. There are, indeed, honourable exceptions, evincing enterprise, intelligence, and respectability; yet much prejudice exists regarding the coloured man even in Canada. But you in Britain, I think, too harshly condemn this prejudice, both as shewn in the United States and here, not understanding sufficiently the various points of this question of difference. Do not think from this, however, I am one of the prejudiced. I find them generally civil and respectful; and any differences they may have, I am more inclined to palliate than blame them for; and I wonder only they are not worse. The Indians, of whom there are two distinct settlements in the district, about twenty miles from London, upon the banks of the Thames, are not, I believe, included in the census. One of these settlements forms part of the tribe of Oneidas, who emigrated about three years ago from the Mohawk Valley in the United States, and purchased this large tract they now possess on the Thames. Many of them have built comfortable houses, and are beginning to raise around them cultivated fields. A division of this tribe emigrated to Green Bay, on Lake Michigan, in the United States; but I believe the greater number came to Canada. Some part of the tribe yet remaining in the Mohawk Valley are expected, I have heard, to join the party of their brethren on the Thames, on completing the arrangements in the disposal of their lands. Then the whole tribe will have parted with their old inheritance there, where they had long grown their maize and smoked their calumet, to be pushed westward by still another sweep of the tide of advancing civilisation. . . . These Oneidas on the Thames are many of them stately-looking men, staid almost to cold haughtiness in their demeanour, reserved in their manner and conversation,

using few words, which, with their erect manly bearing, lustrous black eye, and browned complexion, impart to these best specimens of the tribe a striking dignity. The females are fairer in their complexion—more so than the most of Indian women in Canada—the features less strongly marked—in make lighter, yet robust—manners soft and simple to extreme, having an arch slyness at times, and subdued smile, or light clear laugh, especially when together, and delighting to parry all attempts to lead them into talk. Though few can use English like the men, who mostly have it broken, and also sparingly use it, even those of the women who can, incline rather to their natural shyness and reserve. Their dress is a blanket, or square of blue broad-cloth, worn as a shawl; a printed cotton short gown of showy pattern, falling loosely a little below the waist; a petticoat of dark blue or green cloth, reaching only low enough fully to show their pantalets or leggins of like cloth or colour, fitting close upon the ankle, and embroidered down the out-seam upon a stripe of lively green or scarlet silk, with varied-coloured beads. They usually have no covering on their heads; their jetty black hair is simply braided in front, and made to lie evenly down behind, smooth and glossy; and their blanket, or cloth shawl, brought fully up to the neck, is wrapped tightly around, and not unfrequently displaying a well-rounded form. You have here a little sketch of an Indian belle. You may fancy, additionally, rather small hands with lots of silver rings, and small feet tightly fitted with dressed deer-skin moccasins, neatly made by themselves, with showy silk binding and bead embroidery. Some, too, like our own aspiring fair equestrians, carry their head beneath a gentleman's beaver, and 'all around their hat' rows of light silver ornaments. These specimens of the Oneidas I have alluded to are the more respectable of the tribe; there are others fawdry and dirty enough, though, I should say that, as a whole, they are amongst the most orderly and comfortable-looking Indians living in the settled parts of Canada. These Oneidas live on the south side of the river, where there are sloping and high banks heavily timbered, and a rich soil. Opposite to them, commencing in a gentle valley, then rising on a high steep bank, is the settlement of some other Indian tribes, the Muncneys and Chippewas, in their old village of Munceytown. They have here a large tract of the best of land, with several good farms and houses; their missionary station, with chapel, school, and preacher's residence. Their preacher is himself an Indian, of respectable attainments in knowledge, and of whom, I daresay, you have heard. He is well known as Peter Jones, who, upon one if not two occasions, when he went to England, had the honour of being presented to her Majesty. He delights frequently to revert to this honour, and relates with extreme minuteness and amusing simplicity the details of the ceremony; the humour with which he does this forming a singular contrast to his general austere and dignified bearing. Mr. Jones is esteemed as an excellent man, has done much good among the Indians, and exerts great influence over their conduct and habits. Both tribes, Oneidas and Muncneys, though not to be called civilised, are nevertheless wonderfully regular in their habits, perfectly inoffensive, and are never known to shew the least signs of the savage character formerly attributed to them. At the hunting-season some of the more restless, indeed, set off to the most unfrequented parts of the woods, and, during the snow and frost of winter, encamp for weeks till they have

gathered their sleigh-load of deer-skins and venison, the latter being preserved by the hard frost; when packing up their slender camp, and driven by their small, poorly-fed horses, but as hardy as themselves, they may be seen moving into London in high spirits to dispose of their capture. The wives and children usually accompany them, and several shaggy, ugly, and lean, but sharp-looking dogs,—all which, with blankets, kettles, and other camp utensils, are bundled together in the sleigh. The venison they often sell exceedingly low: I have seen it bought for 2d. and even 1d. a-pound; and our Canadian London is generally plentifully supplied with it during winter."

Their whole number is estimated at about 1000—the Oneidas numbering the most.

The following are merely illustrative extracts relating more distinctly to the condition of our own settlers:

"Cheese, butter, and eggs, ought to shew fully as conspicuously as any of the unenumerated articles in the returns; yet not much cheese is made hereabouts—comparatively little in Canada—and the quality, generally speaking, though I would not say indifferent, I never really could well boast of; still I have seen some very fair samples indeed. A good deal is consumed, which is brought from the United States. From Ohio we have it very fair. English cheese is also used to a little extent. The butter, though some of it is really as good as you could wish, as a whole, however, it does not approach the quality it might be, from not having as yet received the necessary share of attention in Canada; pasturage here being, I suppose, too rank and new, and the cows allowed to feed so much in the bush among various sorts of weeds. There has not, it is true, been any encouraging market for its exportation until the recent favourable alterations in the tariff, and which goes, in some measure, to explain the rather general inattention there has existed in the preparation of this important item of farm-produce. . . .

"As an instance of the changing state of things, even within the period of the last few years: when I first knew this town here, four years ago, there was only one store, I think, where carpeting could be had, and then you would have had indifferent choice; now there are seven or eight principal shops, all keeping a stock of carpeting, and you would have no need to complain of want of variety in kind, quality, or pattern, from common, which can be had at 2s. 6d. a yard, to that usually sold as best Brussels, which is to be had at 5s. When such change has been in a place of only sixteen years' growth, what further more cheering improvement may we not expect in another sixteen years or so? All was forest where this town stands, so lately as the year 1827; and the whole township, composed of a square of about twelve miles, contained only two families in 1817. It is, indeed, true, that the influence of the military stationed here since 1838, and the circulation of their pay, have in a good measure occasioned these improved appearances; but only in measure, as in other towns of western Canada, such as Hamilton, eighty miles east of this, at the head of Lake Ontario, where this influence was absent, the agreeable change I have alluded to, indicating the progress of the country, in being able to increase the comforts of its population, is also strikingly observable. The great bulk of our farming population, however, who are hardy, frugal, plain-living people, I would have you to bear in mind, do not aspire to such pleasant home conveniences as those just mentioned.

The growing taste is limited as yet among the few, and it is chiefly among the more prosperous of the town population that the improvement has most shewn itself. . . . The regret is frequently expressed that Canadian farmers do not shew greater taste for flowers, and keep the exterior of their houses and their gardens neater and more ornamental than is generally done. . . . Canada, however, already is fast improving in this respect. There was established about two years ago, on the outskirts of the town of London, a pretty fairly stocked nursery, by two intelligent and spirited Englishmen; and this (the first thing of the kind, if I am not mistaken, in this western part of Canada) now supplies the inhabitants with the most approved varieties of fruit-trees, shrubs, and flowers. . . .

"The fishings on our lakes promise to be of vast importance. Already, I have been informed by a respectable enterprising gentleman largely engaged in the trade, that there are cured annually on Lake Erie and westward, by the United States people alone, above 30,000 barrels, chiefly white fish, trout, and pickerel. Three American companies have five vessels, and the British Hudson's Bay Company employ one, on Lake Superior, all engaged less or more in the fishing. The principal fishing stations on the lower waters are on the islands and shore of the Detroit River, which connects Lakes Erie and St. Clair. I am very strongly impressed, that in Britain you know little of the growing trade upon these great waters. In 1841 the American people had more than fifty steamers upon Lake Erie and the lakes westward, several of these vessels being from six to eight hundred tons. The estimated value of these was between two and three millions of dollars; and the capital invested in their sail-vessels was estimated at one and a quarter million of dollars; and the joint earnings of steam and sail-vessels that year, for freight and passengers, were calculated to be nearly one and three-quarter millions of dollars. This statement is no vague hearsay, but from accurate sources. Reflect, besides, that the vast bosom of Lake Superior is yet untouched by steam power, and that there are only upon that lake six sail-vessels, and you can conceive that this Far West is only beginning to develop its importance."

From these and all other parts of the work we are brought to the conclusion that Canada is rapidly prospering and increasing; that it depends much on the original characters and habits of emigrants whether they must endure more or less from their change, leaving ease and luxuries for certain inconveniences and labour; and that education is making its way; and, we rejoice to hear also, temperance—for the besetting sin of the majority of the population has been, and is, addition to intoxicating liquors.

Of the literature the author says: "Two-thirds and more of the books sold in Canada are United States publications; and this, notwithstanding a customs duty of 33 per cent upon all books imported from the United States. This law there is little doubt, however, was more honoured in the breach; and a much lower duty is now imposed. . . . It might be supposed that a taste for works of British publication, with their superior printing and paper, would prevail fully as much as in any other quarter of Canada. Yet a respectable bookseller of the town, Mr. Craig, informed the writer that he usually sold from three to four American publications for one British; and that there were certain works, the high-priced

English editions of which not one copy would sell; but whenever the cheap American one, however inferior, was introduced, he had sold in instances from 100 to 200 copies. Of Mr. Dickens's 'Notes on America' he had sold 150 copies, and had not nearly supplied the demand. This American edition was sold in New York for 12½ cents, or 6d. sterling; and when American and Canada postages were added (1 cent per sheet American, and 1d. per sheet Canada postage), and other expenses, the book was sold in London, Canada, at 1s. sterling. Of the English editions of English novels the high prices prevented one copy being sold; but whenever an American edition was produced, the sale usually averaged from 40 to 50 copies. Of one American edition of 'Blackwood's Magazine,' Mr. C. would sell about 30 copies; and nearly the same number of the 'Edinburgh Review.' This edition of the Review sold in New York at 1s. sterling, and in Canada at 1s. 6d. A result of this cheap literature, in the greatly increased circulation, appeared to be somewhat similar to the result of the experiment in Britain of cheap postage. Individuals who, in Britain, would have only seen the leading magazines and reviews at the public reading-room, or had them a night from the circulating library, in Canada would order one, two, or more, direct from New York, for the period of six months or a year, which they could regularly receive on repudiation, and have bound, and added to their library. Liebig's works of Agricultural and Animal Chemistry, published in Britain at 10s. 6d., may be laid upon the shelves of the cottager here for 1s. or 1s. 6d. each; and probably the publishers of these American editions would dispose of 60,000 copies! From observation and inquiries in other parts of Canada, Toronto, Kingston, and Montreal, the same fact presented itself of a very limited number of copies of British editions of books being sold in these places, as well as westward.

With this, and our hearty recommendation, we take leave of this faithful and impartial volume; the usefulness of which is much enhanced by an ample statistical appendix.

Strathern; or, Life at Home and Abroad: a Story of the Present Day. By the Countess of Blessington. 4 vols. London, Colburn.

The Comic Miscellany. By John Poole, Esq. Pp. 340. London, Colburn.

Brallaghan; or, the Deipnosophists. By Edward Kenealy, Esq. Pp. 336. London, Churton. We have classed these three publications together for a brief notice, as preceding circumstances take them, as it were by *habeas corpus*, out of our jurisdiction. They have appeared in contemporary periodicals of large circulation; and thus, though well deserving to be consigned to a separate and more permanent shape, they are unfit to be dissected and pieced out again in a review. Indeed, we have a repugnance to commenting on our fellow-labourers and their contributors. It is our province to sit in judgment upon the criminal offenders who dare to publish their effusions, and are brought to the bar in consequence for their amount of punishment; but "corbies do not pick out corbies' eyes;" and it were as bad as one jurymen arraigning and sentencing his fellow-jurors were we to animadvert on the *Sunday Times*, the *New Monthly Magazine*, or *Blackwood's*!

In the *Sunday Times*, one of the weekly journals of most extensive sale, Lady Blessington's *Strathern* has appeared fragmentally, and been a green oasis for the eye to rest upon in the midst of the sultry desert of political heat and

aridity. Where the hot sands of party are blown about till we are almost blinded into ophthalmia, it is refreshing to have a gentle well of literature to turn to, and get over the choking sensations of the rancorous simoom. Surely the readers of this newspaper must have enjoyed Lady Blessington's pictures of social life at home and abroad, painted with her usual tact, and representing a multitude of characters and occasions which her acute observation has discerned in a long intercourse with the upper ranks of society. Having seen, and acted, and conversed, her ladyship can truly describe; and having done so here on a pretty wide scale, the work affords pleasant reading in a variety of ways. A sweet and intelligent portrait of the author, by Edwin Landseer, gives an additional interest to these volumes.

Mr. Poole's *Miscellany* nearly resembles that we noticed a fortnight ago. It consists of eleven papers selected from his contributions to the *New Monthly Magazine*, with his portrait prefixed, and a humorous illustration, by Phiz, of the Way to the Gallows made easy. The likeness of Poole is not so characteristic as the former, being rather complimented; yet it is engraved in a superior style, after Pickersgill. But what we have chiefly to allude to in this volume is a preliminary address to the reader by Mr. Colburn, in which he defends himself from the charges of Mr. Poole. He states that he paid the writer more than he would otherwise have done for his papers to the Magazine, on the express understanding that they were to be collected and republished whenever he saw fit. He says they were fully corrected by Mr. Poole previous to their first appearance, and that he might have revised them if he had chosen last October, when his wish to incorporate them with the elder papers just re-issued (under the title of *Christmas Festivities*) was rejected by Mr. Colburn, who adds that he had no intimation of his intention to dispose of them to another publisher. So stands the dispute at the present time of writing.

The third on our list is from the universally-read pages of *Blackwood*, into which the classic talent and Irish humour of Mr. Kenealy procured them the *entré*. This single fact proclaims their merit; for our northern friend does not deal much with the Balaam Box. Most of our readers will recollect Brallaghan's lively correspondence from Radcliffe Highway—his entertaining sketches of life, and his sweeping assault and passage of arms against Tom Moore for plagiarisms. Put together, they form a spirited volume.

CENTO.

[We continue the notices begun a fortnight ago, not of Rejected Addresses, but of the postponed and somewhat neglected books which, in spite of all our diligence, will accumulate upon our hands, and which, as faithful chroniclers of the literature of the day, we are bound at least to record and characterize.]

The Silent Village, and Erotophusee, &c. By Thomas Clarke, Author of "Days in May," &c. Pp. circ. 200. London, W. Pickering.—The writer, though far from being destitute of merit, seems disappointed in the general estimate falling short of his own, yet perseveres with the thorough spirit of a man convinced against his will. He consoles himself by declaring, "it is my conviction that success and its rewards are not far distant, however adverse the circumstances and the times may be in which my lot has been cast. I am fully aware of the magnitude of the sacrifices already made,

and to be made; but I am also alive to the glory and the honour which must crown the result:

'Carmina sola carent fata mortemque repellunt.'

It may be asked—what are my grounds for such a conviction? I answer—the determination to persevere! Perseverance, even when united with dulness, is omnipotent here in England."

We doubt the fact. But, in truth, Mr. Clarke is not a dull poet; though his preface is a very long and dull dissertation, with political flights which have no business either with the Muses or his own themes. Having been published before, and received various praises from many of our contemporaries, we will only add our opinion, that the writer will never attain the height of his ideal ambition, though his compositions evince considerable facility and talent.

The Bateucas, Francis Alvarez, &c. By W. H. Leatham. Pp. 29. London, Longmans; Wakefield, Illingworth and Hicks.—A slight volume, if twenty leaves can be called a volume; but two pretty little pieces, versified from Borrow's Spain.

Poems. By a Little Girl, aged twelve years. Pp. 61. London, Seeley and Burnside; Blackheath, Seeley.—A subscription has encouraged this very juvenile appeal to the public; and the better education of the writer will be the fruit of its success. We cannot, therefore, but wish it well. Indeed, it is extraordinary to meet with so many just and pleasing thoughts in so young a person; and as we could not expect them to be free from faults in composition, we must be content with earnestly recommending this promising child to the friends of early talent. So good is the cause, we cannot resist the temptation to enforce it with a specimen:

"On the Death of a Baby.

The baby lay in its robe of white,
All calm and still within,
And its tint of rose was touch'd with blight,
And pale and clear its skin.

And serenely shone its waxen face,
Which smiles seem yet to adorn;
But his soul is gone to its resting-place,
To wait the heavenly morn.

And though cold is now that marble brow,
Which anxious tears bedew,
And the mother hopes he's still below,
And deems her wishes true:

His spirit is gone to dwell above,
Amidst a heavenly throng,
Where seraphs praise a God of love,
And tune the rapturous song."

The National Bankruptcy, and other Poems.

By T. B. Browne (of Mellington), Author of "Thoughts of the Times." Pp. 161. W. Pickering.—We cannot imagine the first of these compositions—entitled, the "National Bankruptcy"—to be poetry:

"With his hand his brow o'er-shadowing stands one
gloomily apart,
Pondering all alone, and stricken with astonishment
of heart."

"Until now the might of money I believed not, but I
see
'Tis indeed the god men worship, since it thus can
bear down thee."

It may be good; but to our ear it is a measure
immeasurable by any current or standard feet.
They bother our ideas of dactyles and spondees,
iambics, dithyrambics, and all other *ies*! Still
the author is a sensible writer, and makes
shrewd remarks—*ex. gr.*:

"Old earth endures
Too many reams of paper on her back,
Far better scored with railways, as now will
Mind marching purling betwixt haste and trade.
A march as hard to comprehend as are
The vast digests of statistic men,
If they devour (devourer) all that they collect,
Nor keep huge piles of figures and of facts,

Like a Dutch drawing-room, for shew not use.
We, who are moulded less like mastodons,
Find facts redundant, and conclusions few.
In this incessant whirl wherein we live,
When 'many,' as foretold, 'run to and fro,'
If 'knowledge be increased,' results are small.
We boast indeed of our enlarged command
O'er stubborn nature, of the multiplied
Appliances of art to please the sense—
Man thrives not only by such outward gain;
And little is the profit, if thereby
As wealth grows wealthier, poorer are the poor.

We quote also a portrait, and scene from Exeter Hall:—

"At one of the grand gatherings, duly held
Each year in London, in the month of May.
It was a righteous cause, and women throng'd,
Chief audience, as is wont, the spacious room.
Some speakers heard and honour'd, there were signs
Of higher expectation unfulfilled,
When the chief orator, or actor, rose:
A ladies' hero, muscular and tall,
With pretty, peach-like bloom on either cheek,
Features that seem ingenuous and bland,
Yet those who closely search'd might well discern
A something doubtful in the lip and eye.
Familiar was his speech and jocular
At first, and then with facts he plodded on,
The matter common, meagre was the phrase.
But yet—for he was one whom oft to hear
Did that fair bery 'seriously incline'—
The women seem'd to hang upon his lips,
As wasps, but these were fairer and benign,
Cluster to feast upon the slimy rill
Of sweet sap trickling from yon shaky oak.
I sat half listening and half musing, till,
Roused by a treacherous murmur of low sighs,
And rustling of uplifted snowy lawn,
I found the orator descending wild,
With eager gesture and impassion'd voice,
Upon the dread, mysterious agonies
Borne in the garden and upon the cross.
To me, who had in truth observed but ill
The shiftings, rude of his disjointed talk,
It seem'd as if the holiest mysteries
Were idly blended with a pointless jest.
He ceased, complacently, as one who felt
Emotions roused more flattering than applause.
My mind was all ajar, I rush'd away—
Yet linger'd for a moment at the door,
To mark the bonnets, blue, pink, white, or green,
Forth issuing like a shoal of metaphors,
Jostling each other from great Shakspeare's mouth."

There are proofs of reading and observation
to make amends for much indifferent verse.

Francis the First, and other Poems. By J. T. Mott. Pp. 147. London, Pickering.—Another of the publisher's neatly got up volumes—the compositions of a sacred character, but not gifted with so much of originality as to lift them above the lower atmosphere of Parnassus. The top of the hill is far above. They are, however, musical, and often pleasingly descriptive.

King Henry II., an Historical Drama. Pp. 182. Pickering.—Also too near the level ground: the drama adheres closely to the received history, and the actors speak pretty nearly as is there set down for them.

Pictures from Dante, in the Version of Wright. Selected by the Translator. Pp. 147. Longmans.—Intended as a sample, to try the public taste; and if approved, promising the whole illustrious Italian. The selections are from the *Paradise*, *Purgatorio*, and *Inferno*; and skillfully exhibit the poet's powers as a painter. This part of the design curiously coincides with that of Mr. Leigh Hunt, noticed in our *Literary Gazette*, No. 1455; and being much pleased with it ourselves, we can only say that we trust others will be equally so, and thus encourage the translator fully to complete his purpose.

Hymn to Passion-Week. By T. H. Gill. Pp. 24. London, C. E. Mudie.—An enthusiastic effort upon a divine subject, to the pathos and sublimity of which it fails to reach.

The Seven Penitential Psalms, &c. By M. Montague. Pp. 143. London, Hatchards.—Specimens of a new versification of the Psalter, illustrated with notes and appendix. To

avoid or steer between the elder versions' want of poetry and polish, and the newer versions' want of fidelity, the author has here made a vigorous attempt on a new translation of the Psalms, "fitted to the tunes used in churches." The preface gives a good précis of preceding works of the same kind from the earliest period, and some curious examples of their styles, which possesses considerable literary interest. With regard to the poetic portion of the volume, we must say, that with a good deal of skill in composition, it is far from close to the original, but, on the contrary, periphrastic.

Nothing. In Rhyme and Prose. By G. Bolton. Pp. 291. Saunders and Otley.—*Ex nihilo nihil fit*, says the old Roman adage, and it is alike true in English. Some dozen of productions, rather of the Tom and Jerry school, sufficiently extravagant in action, and often vulgarly offensive in language.

State of Nations, Past and Present, &c. By P. A. Beddome. Pp. 256. London, Arnold.—A school-book of a thousand questions and answers, selected from history: the plan is not so good or instructive as a plain narrative with a sufficient index.

Tecumseh; an Historical Indian-Israel Tragedy. The Life of General Harrison; and the first Oration on Shakspeare. By George Jones, Esq., M.R.S., &c. 8vo, pp. 242. London, Longmans; New York, Harpers.—We unhappily entertain an idea respecting the disturbance of the author's mind, through his enthusiastic devotedness to certain literary and antiquarian pursuits, amounting to a species or measure of monomania; and therefore refrain from the review of this tragedy, biography, and oration, referring for our opinion of Mr. Jones's talents to our notice of *The Original History of Ancient America* (see *Lit. Gaz.*, No. 1398). There is nothing in the present volume to call for particular comment; not even its wildness and egoism.

BARON DE BODE'S BOKHARA.

[Second notice.]

BESIDES its palace, grantees' houses, and horrible prisons, Bokhara contains 360 mosques—that is to say, one to every street and lane; but only nine or ten of these are what the Turks would call *jarins*, or places where the *namazuma*, or Sunday prayers, are read. There are 103 medressehs, or colleges—square buildings, with a central quadrangular court, sometimes planted with a few trees. The front wall of the chief of these colleges is ornamented with coloured tiles, and the most eminent of all has 150 cells. The city has also twenty-four stone karavanserais, and fourteen that are built of wood. It has sixteen baths and nine *timir*, or serais, allotted for the sale of particular commodities. All the private dwellings in Bokhara are built on the same plan, and consist of one or several four-cornered courts, surrounded by mud buildings, in general one story high.

Of bazaars, there is one great one for the morning and one for the evening; but besides these, there are twenty-four bazaars for special commodities—as bread, fish, salt, boots, slaves, &c. &c.; and twenty-two more in the environs, where are also some remarkable edifices, mosques, medressehs, saints' tombs, and rose-gardens. The total population Khanikoff supposes to amount to from 60,000 to 70,000 persons.*

* According to Elphinstone's information, Bokhara contained more inhabitants than any city in Great

Samarkand, on the Zer Affshan, is still a great city; and its wall is in good repair. It contains a population of from 25,000 to 30,000 souls; and its citadel is larger than that of Bokhara. The mausoleum of Timur is a high octagonal edifice, surmounted by an elevated dome. There are also many mosques and medressehs.

The Khanah of Bokhara has, properly speaking, only three branches of industry—agricultural, commercial, and that of handicraft; manufacturing industry does not exist, though there is one manufactory of articles in cast iron.

The silver poplar is the only tree allowed to be grown in the gardens of Bokhara, which does not yield fruit. Of grapes there are thirteen varieties: the mode of grafting is very original. Peaches and apricots are of three sorts. Pomegranates in abundance. There are two kinds of plum, eight of apples, and two of pears; but the latter fruit is not in much request. Cherries and almonds are in greater demand. The mulberry-tree is also cultivated, but the silk is of an inferior quality.

The vegetables common to our own climate are also met with in Bokhara, and, in addition to them, a great variety of melons and pumpkins. Cotton and tobacco are much cultivated.

In the fields, wheat, rice, barley, and millet, are grown; and two harvests are reaped in the year. Notwithstanding this prolificness, the paucity of arable land in proportion to the population causes more ground to be occupied by gardens than by grain.

The breed of horses, as is well known, is good, including the Turkoman, Uzbek, and Khokand stocks. Horned cattle are in miserable condition, and even poultry little attended to: hence, while almost all the other necessities of life are exceedingly cheap, meat, wool, and skins are very dear. This is not the case with furs, which are very low priced; and skins of leopards and tigers are of no use, as there is not even a sale for them.

Commerce is mainly carried on by fairs or *maris* held in various parts of the country. The central points are Bokhara, Samarkand, and Karshi. The essential conditions of facility of communication do not exist. Notwithstanding this, Bokhara is the point where all the Asiatic caravans concentrate themselves. It is the central point, indeed, of all the commercial routes between eastern and western Asia, and through which the chief products of that part of the world are sent to Europe.

There are no privileges in favour of merchants of one nation to the prejudice of another; and the imported commodities are not sold at Bokhara in retail, but are bought up wholesale to satisfy the wants of distant consumers scattered north, west, south, and east. The only distinction is, that Mussulmans pay 2½ per cent; and all who are not Mussulmans pay 5 per cent.

The trade with Russia is carried on by means of caravans. There are four of these annually, three of which direct themselves to as many

Britain, London excepted. Frazer was informed by the *amir Zadeh*, that the houses of Bokhara exceeded 120,000; and that of the suburbs as many more. The military force of Bokhara has been variously estimated at from 100,000 to 30,000: we have seen that the latter is nearer the mark. In the conquest of Khokand in 1841, the *amir's* army consisted of 1000 *sarabases*, or regular troops, eleven cannons, and two mortars, and a force of 30,000 *Uzbeks*. Khanikoff estimates the whole population of the Khanat of Bokhara at two and a half millions. Irving estimated it at 3,600,000. It is highly probable that Khanikoff's estimate of the population of the city of Bokhara is even now too high, although his estimates are all so much inferior to what have hitherto appeared.

different points of the government of Orenburg, and one travels on the Siberian line. Raw cotton occupies the chief place among the imported articles, added to which are fruit, rice, silk, indigo, caps, sashes, turquoises, shawls, and furs. For these Russia returns chintz, calicos, muslins, some silk stuffs, broad cloth, brocade, &c. In 1828 the exports from Russia to Bokhara only amounted to 1,180,600 roubles; in 1831, to 1,803,414; and the progress has been steady to 1840, when it was 3,283,654.

The author remarks, that Glasgow muslins do not sell because they have living things represented on them; and he also points out that sugar-loaves should be small. The Moscow manufacturers made a great hit by sending out checked turbans. It is wonderful that, except for the India market, British manufacturers never think it worth their while to study the patterns of particular people. Another judicious remark which he makes, and which is particularly applicable to the British manufactures which go to the East, is, that solidity of texture and durability of colours should never be sacrificed to cheapness. An Eastern seldom buys twice of such inferior articles.

In addition to the trade with Russia, Bokhara has a regular caravan trade with Khiva, Cabul, Herat, and Cashmir, and a brisk trade is also kept up with Tashkand, Kashgar, and Yarkand. The China trade comes through this latter route, and some English manufactures penetrate through Cabul from India, and through Meshid from Trebizond.

It will be seen from the brief analysis which we have here presented of M. Khanikoff's very able work, that it makes us more intimate with the hitherto little known Khanat of Bokhara than we are with Morocco, and many countries quite as close to European civilisation.

Ephemerides; or, Occasional Recreations at the Sea-port Town of Tanti-perd-tant-pay. By R. M. Hovenden, Esq. 8vo, pp. 372. Newby. A VERY desultory volume, but evincing a considerable share of observation and talents. Partly devoted to merely amusing topics, and partly to questions of the gravest import, the writer seems to have thrown out his ideas as they occurred, without an attempt at order or consistency. After a pleasant description of landing in France, he compares together the middle classes of the two countries, separated by a narrow channel; and the following remarks are pat enough to the purpose:—

"There is a pleasant story told by some one, I forget whom, of a retired butcher in a country town, who sent round to his old customers, informing them that he intended to kill a lamb once a week just for his amusement. I believe the like might be related of every retired tradesman in England, with the exception, may be, of the tailor, who from living principally on cabbage, has probably much in common, and enjoys his leisure in much the same state of luxurious listlessness with the ruminating animals. He is the exception to the rule; the generality are echoing, unconsciously and inarticulately, the sentiment of Arnauld of Port Royal: 'Rest! rest! shall I not have a whole eternity to rest in?' This incapacity for enjoying the fruits of a life of toil is something peculiar to the traders of England. Whether it proceed from the love of accumulation, the desire to become the founders of a race of gentlemen, or the want of power to turn their ideas into a new channel, I cannot say: in most cases, probably, from a mixture of all three. Could we all bring ourselves to look upon the world as a great workshop, we should,

doubtless, consider this trait as a very valuable one in our national character. The *homo unius libri* is proverbially formidable at his weapon; and when that weapon is a ledger, it will certainly find favour in the eyes of political economists. But there is another proverb, equally true, which says: the man of one joke is a very tedious fellow; and when that joke turns for ever upon pounds, shillings, and pence, it is about as wearisome as the cackling of a hen over her nest-eggs. 'We have more riches,' says Carlyle, 'than any nation ever had before; and we have less good of them than any nation ever had before; and like the terse county member who set the seal of his approval upon one of Burke's most eloquent harangues, I say, ditto to Mr. Professor of Things in General.' The French tradesman is exactly the reverse of all that I have stated with regard to his English prototype. What is in intaglio in the original, in the ectype is in relief; easy to be abraded by time and wear; the motto, too, is to be read backwards. His aim, indeed, is to make his fortune; but his end is to enjoy it when made. Look, for instance, at the fashionable *gantier* or *cordonnier pour dames* in the Rue de la Paix. The time-honoured names of Boivin Aîné and Melnotte have passed away. The former, having amassed his three hundred thousand francs, has sold his shop and goodwill, and become a house-proprietor—house property being a species of investment in high favour in Paris. He reads his newspaper in the pleasant garden of the Palais Royal or the Tuileries, eats his evening ice at Tortoni's, administers his own affairs with great order and regularity, and bestows a proper measure of attention and supervision on the concerns of the nation at large; for he is now a tax-payer to a considerable amount, and an elector of his *arrondissement*. Of the latter I cannot speak with equal confidence: one thing, however, is certain; he, too, has made his fortune, and is now employing himself on what one would suppose to be a far easier task—the enjoyment of it. He may have become a landed proprietor; may be taking his *otium cum digginitate*, as the Scotchman calls it; is probably not only an elector but an *eligible*. I should like to have it decided, upon the plain utilitarian principle of 'the greatest happiness to the greatest number,' in which of the two countries the class of which I speak is most enviable."

Were it our habit to meddle with religious or political opinions of authors, we might have a good deal to say of Mr. Hovenden's strenuous objections to the Roman Catholic Church; not so much for any of its doctrines or dogmas, as for abuses he declares to be consequent upon the celibacy of its clergy and auricular confession, both of which he denounces in strong terms—but we leave these subjects and the rest of his various production to the taste and judgment of readers, who will find the work altogether a strangely mixed, somewhat original, and not at all a stupid performance.

Sacred History: New Testament. Pp. 220. London, J. Burns.

GOT up in the publisher's usual very neat style, this little volume, made up a good deal from Schmid's *New Testament History*, selects fifty-one subjects from the New Testament, and paraphrases them in a simple manner for the instruction of the young reader. The execution commands our praise; and we safely mention it as a very fitting present, where a religious object is in view, for the holy season of Christian rejoicing.

The History of British India from 1805 to 1835. By H. H. Wilson, M.A., F.R.S. &c. Vol. I. (and of Mill's History, VII.) 8vo, pp. 608. London, J. Madden and Co.

THE very valuable History of Mr. Mill is here continued to the year 1813, by a gentleman every way competent to the important task. As far as the volume before us goes, we think it does honour to his research, impartiality, and sound judgment; but we shall reserve ourselves for the completion, when, we believe, we shall have to congratulate the public on as effectual and perfect an account of our astonishing empire in the East as ever was given of any country.

The Duties of Judge-Advocates, &c. By Capt. R. M. Hughes, 19th Bombay Regiment, &c. Pp. 221. London, Smith, Elder, and Co.

A PROFESSIONAL *vade-mecum*, relating to most important duties, and, as far as we are competent to form an opinion, executed in the ablest manner. The just administration of military laws is essential to the honour of the service, and the safe and rightful condition of the soldier; and when we consider how many individuals are called to sit on courts martial without previous knowledge or experience, we must say that we consider this work, the only complete separate treatise on the subject, to be one of great value, and deserving the study of every British officer.

Supplement to Dr. Ure's Dictionary of Arts, Manufactures, and Mines. Pp. 294. Longmans.

THE qualifications of Dr. Ure to carry out the design of his Dictionary have been generally acknowledged; and his continued professional vocations and researches befitted him to keep pace with the constant changes and improvements in arts, manufactures, and mining statistics, and to note their progress for universal information. The principal topics of the present volume, taking a sample from nearly every letter, are—Artesian Wells, Bitumen, Caoutchouc, Daguerrotype, Electro-metallurgy, Fermentation, Guano, Iron, Lamps, Mines, Oils, Paper, Resins, Silk, Tobacco, Ventilation, White Lead, and Zinc. This brief selection shows how much attention has been given to recent inventions and improvements, and how valuable a book of reference the Supplement alone will prove. We dipped here and there for omissions, but met with very few. One, however, we may supply to Electro-metallurgy: magneto-electricity, employed for electroplating and gilding, &c. at Birmingham. The armatures of large magnets are made to revolve by one-horse steam-power; uniformity of action and regularity of deposit result, and cheapness in the ratio of water and coal to acids and zinc.

The Court Partial. 2 vols. T. C. Newby. AN inartificial tale of military life almost entirely in India; and including two or three episodes of Indian loves, poisonings, and disgraces, slightly connected with the leading narrative. Rawdon, the hero, disappointed in his first attachment, seeks change in the East, together with a schoolfellow bosom-friend. On the voyage out, which is rather detailed in its incidents, they become intimate with a Major Rostrevor and his little daughter, the heroine, then six years old. There is a villainous martinet lord, who acts a conspicuous part both in the home and foreign affairs; but the story ends with something like the poetical justice desired by novel-readers, though not quite enough developed to satisfy the mind in regard to the punishment of the guilty. The most original thought in the publication is that of a

lady-passenger for India, who held that the moon could not be inhabited, because "if there were any inhabitants, they would be so much distressed for want of space when there was a new moon that they would certainly die of suffocation!" P. 189, vol. i. The following is a sample of the careless in style: "That person was Lady Wyville: he had joined his regiment; but as she was," &c. P. 269, vol. ii.

Crania Egyptiaca; or, Observations on Egyptian Ethnography, derived from Anatomy, History, and the Monuments. By S. G. Morton, M.D., author of "Crania Americana," &c. 4to, pp. 67. Philadelphia, J. Pennington; London, Madden and Co.

PART of the Transactions, which do honour to the American Philosophical Society. We regret our not being acquainted with Dr. Morton's preceding investigation of the almost equally interesting subject, the *Crania Americana*: we can only, however, speak of what is before us, and say how important we consider the information it contains to the ethnographical study of the human race. Original distinctions of natural form, changes produced by climates or customs, by centuries of savage life or centuries of civilisation, the wonderful adaptations wrought out by the intermingling of different breeds or untraceable powers, and all the extraordinary phenomena which are discovered by generalised comparisons, could offer no fitter field for data than the cradle of the ancient world, and the people of Egypt. From a large number of the most authentic materials collected, and mummies examined, during years of residence by several intelligent individuals, and the examination of other monuments, works of art, and remains, the author refers the whole to the two great divisions of mankind, the Caucasian and Negro, there being not only a great disparity between the two, but the former displaying many various types of the race. The blendings of Pelagic or Egyptian with Negro, or of Pelagic with Egyptian, or of Hebrew or Semitic with either, and the pure and perfect examples of any distinct race, are accurately figured in the engravings; and the conclusions drawn from them appear to be rational and incontrovertible. Every feature and configuration is carefully scrutinised; and hair, complexion, measurement of crania and facial angles, &c. lead to the conclusions at which the diligent and learned writer arrives.

Such being the character of this work, we shall not enter upon its details, but simply refer to it as one of those valuable contributions to ethnographical knowledge, which may yet be applied (at any rate physically) to the improvement of the present and future generations, wise as they are, or fancy themselves to be in self-conceit.

Algeria, Past and Present. By J. H. Blofield, Esq. 8vo, pp. 400. London, T. C. Newby. A PUBLICATION most *apropos*, and meriting popularity. For though it is not put together in a very workmanlike manner, it does contain a great deal of matter touching Algeria, "past and present," which is all that the reading public requires. It is a straightforward collection of statements from preceding sources, and is not injured by any of the compiler's own opinions. Thinking it worthy of general acceptance, we quote only one paragraph as a sample: "The Arabs believe that the English are not Christians *entirely*, but something between Christians and Mahometans. They say, that Mahomet was a great friend to the English, and wrote them a letter exhorting them to turn to the true faith, and that they should be the

first people under his sway, and that we were almost converted, when the death of Mahomet put an end to the correspondence, and we remained infidels; but still we are not so bad as the others, because we do not worship images." This is news to us.

Ballads, and other Poems. By J. G. Whittier.

Pp. 216. London, H. G. Clarke and Co. MR. WHITTIER is a writer better known across the Atlantic than on this side of the water. The present collection shows him to be gifted with considerable poetic talent, of a warm patriotic disposition, and a declared enemy to the slavery of his species in any country and under any form.

Anti-Coningsby; or, the New Generation grown Old. By an Embryo M.P. 2 vols. London, T. C. Newby.

WITH a taking title this is a very extravagant piece of work, of which we can hardly make head or tail. It alludes to, if it does not handle, so many topics, and in so desultory a manner, that it is difficult to attach, and far more to connect, a meaning. It raises Ben Sidonia, Mr. Disraeli, to the rank first of M.P. for London, through the Jewish interests, in conjunction with Lord John Russell, Moses of the Minorities, and Mr. Patterson (*sic*); and afterwards to that of emperor of Great Britain!! Old clothesmen are made peers, and we cannot tell how many other absurdities are invented; the whole sprinkled with jokes and puns, for the which we refer to the volumes in question. At the conclusion, the emperor allows Coningsby to jump down his throat, after a huge supper of eggs and bacon, and then vanishes for Jerusalem. If this be not trash, what is?

The Betrothed Lovers: a Milanese Story of the Seventeenth Century. With the Column of Infamy. By Alessandro Manzoni. 3 vols. Longmans.

THE popularity of Manzoni, not only in Italy, but in other countries into the language of which his writings have been translated, renders it unnecessary for us to do more than indicate the appearance of a new version of the *Betrothed*. The *Column of Infamy*, occupying nearly half of the last volume, contains the singular, merciless, and unjust proceedings of the senate and criminal court of Milan in the trial of parties accused in 1630 of the crime of poisoning the walls of houses, and so disseminating the plague throughout the city; the utter absurdity of which charge could not save them from cruel tortures and a horrid death. To commemorate this the residence of one of them, the barber Mora, was razed to the ground, and the Column of Infamy, with a suitable inscription, erected on the site. As since that period the employment of the torture in criminal cases has been abandoned throughout Europe, and the column itself was, in 1778, pulled down, we need only refer to these details as proof of the monstrous superstition and barbarity which so rampantly flourished two centuries ago, and indeed long after that date, and congratulate ourselves, at least in these respects, on having improved on the wisdom of our ancestors. And we are the more inclined to do so when we observe with what force an original impression of falsehood and error preserves itself through succeeding generations; so that the most enlightened authors of Italy have gone on treating the guilt of the sufferers as a proven fact, and this abominable tragedy as if it had been based on incontrovertible grounds. Thus influenced by dominant opinion, not only the contemporary, G. Ripamonti, but the later historians, Nani and

Muratori, and Parini the poet, tell the tale as possible and credible. At last, Pietro Verri, by "observations" written in 1777, but not published till 1804, dispelled the clouds of prejudice, demonstrated that the infamy was on the side of the judges and other authorities, and rescued the memory of these poor mangled and sacrificed wretches from the odium of a most iniquitous doom. As a picture of the condition of society, though rather overlaid by legal argument, this account is well worthy of perusal.

Legends and Records, chiefly historical. By C. B. Tayler, M.A., author of "The Records of a Good Man's Life," &c. Pp. 352. London, Smith, Elder, and Co.

IS a beautiful dress of cerulean blue and silver, almost worthy to embalm a "fifth edition" of these pure and charming moral productions, we need only point to the above italics to justify what it has always been our duty and pleasure to say of Mr. Tayler's writings. To train the mind to just perceptions and high sentiments, whilst instructing it with useful information, has been the essence of all he has published; and we rejoice to see what is so well calculated to do good so justly and popularly appreciated. The beautiful style of the binding of this edition will recommend it farther as an admirable Christmas present for intelligent youth.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

Dec. 23.—MR. R. I. Murchison, president, in the chair. The reading of extracts from Mr. Schomburgk's voluminous and interesting report was resumed and concluded. As it would be impossible by a short abstract to do justice to Mr. Schomburgk's valuable communication, we shall confine ourselves to the results. The general map of British Guayana constructed by the traveller is based upon the following observations: the determination of the latitude of 174 different points by 4824 altitudes of heavenly bodies. The determination of hour-angles for meridional distances, and the rate of the chronometers for 223 different stations, rests upon 5801 altitudes of the sun or stars (besides which about 1500 lunar distances were taken, making together 12,125 astronomical observations). The meteorology of the region in all its branches was particularly attended to; the registered observations of the barometer and thermometer alone amount to 6692. Notwithstanding the great difficulty of conveying collections of natural history over such a country as that traversed by Mr. Schomburgk, and the frequent loss of objects collected with great pains, Mr. S. has deposited in the British Museum 2500 specimens of dried plants, 100 specimens of woods, dried fruits, a flower and young leaf of the *Victoria regia* and several other botanical specimens preserved in spirits, a collection of bird-skins, upwards of 100 specimens of fishes in spirits, a geological collection, and an ethnological collection. The Royal College of Surgeons has been presented with some skulls, a perfect skeleton, and a number of plaster casts. The model-room of the Admiralty has received a collection of woods; the Royal Gardens at Kew several living plants; and presents of curiosities from Guayana have been made to different scientific societies and institutions. During his journeys Mr. Schomburgk did not neglect the interesting subject of terrestrial magnetism. Thus, whenever he had an opportunity, he vibrated a pair of Hansteen's needles; this he did at 17 stations, extending north and

south from the 8th to the 1st parallel north of the geographical equator, and from the 56th to the 62d meridian west of Greenwich. The magnetic inclination, and particularly the declination, were ascertained in many instances. Mr. Goodall, the artist who accompanied Mr. Schomburgk, has made an immense number of drawings and sketches, including everything of interest the travellers met with, and his performances are alike creditable to his talent and his industry. Thus has British Guayana been explored and its resources made known, through the ability, the enterprising spirit, the admirable tact, and untiring perseverance of Mr. Schomburgk, who, in addition to the service rendered to our country by the valuable details he has supplied to us respecting one of our colonies, but very imperfectly known till his travels, has, like a true disciple of the Humboldtian school, made many interesting discoveries in almost every branch of science.

Mr. Schomburgk was present at the reading of his papers, and obligingly gave the meeting much *viva voce* information.

NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

Dec. 19.—Lord A. Conyngham in the chair.—A letter from the Rev. H. Christmas was read, on three imited coins; one, a coin of Edgar struck at Bury; another, a penny of Henry III., having the reverse retrograde HALLI ON RVLA; and the third, the long looked-for halfpenny of Edward VI. Obv. head of the king in profile looking to the right, legend E. D. G. ROSA. SINE. SPINA. Rev. cross and pellets, legend CIVITAS. LONDON. This unique specimen not only adds a coin never noticed before to the English series, but extends the series of London coins with the cross and pellets, and the name of the city, from the first to the last Edward.—Mr. C. R. Smith exhibited impressions from British or Gaulish coins found on the coast of Sussex; a new specimen of the British series from Springhead, near Gravesend; and an additional contribution to the coins of Cunobelin in a new type from France, reading on one side CVNO beneath a horse prancing with head reverted, on the other a novel kind of flower, with CAMV across the field.—Mr. Akerman congratulated the meeting upon the impulse given to numismatic researches by the formation of the society, which had conducted to the discovery of many new varieties of British coins, as well as to a more correct method of classifying them. Mr. Akerman then pointed out several modes of distinguishing the more obscure British coins from the Gaulish, which in many respects they closely resembled.—Mr. Smith then read, by permission of the central committee of the British Archaeological Association, an account of a recent discovery of 1223 Roman coins among the foundations of Roman buildings now being excavated by Mr. T. Baker, of Watercombs House, at Bisle, near Gloucester. Some of the coins, in fine preservation, were exhibited. They are of the Tetrici, Victorinus, Aurelian, Severina, Gallienus, Salonina, Postumus, Marius, Diocletian, Maximianus, Carausius, and Allectus. Of the first of these there are many hundreds, of the last only one specimen, but which, Mr. Smith stated, was a new and interesting variety. It reads on obv. IMP. C. ALLECTUS. P. AVG. on the rev. VICTORIGER; *Victoria Germanica*. This reverse occurs on coins of Carausius, and on those of other preceding emperors, but it has never before been found upon a coin of Allectus. Mr. Akerman remarked, that upon many of the coins of this period the inscriptions were often mere capricious copies of those of preceding times, and he

thought that too much historical importance must not be attached to them. Mr. Smith said that this rule would hold good in some respects with the coins of almost all periods, but at the same time while there were many of the coins of Carausius, such as the legionary ones, which required severe scrutiny, there were many others which bore the stamp of propriety of decree and legend, and which palpably referred to the facts and circumstance they professed to record. In the specimen under discussion, he saw no reason why it may not have been struck to record some advantage gained over the Saxon pirates who infested the British seas, although there is no historical account of any such event. Several new members were proposed.

PARIS LETTER.

Paris, 21st Dec. 1844.

Academy of Sciences: sitting of the 16th Dec.—A farther memoir by MM. Baudrimont and Martin Saint-Ange contained a continuation of their researches on embryology. Their former investigations had shewn that, during organic development, eggs absorbed oxygen, and emitted carbonic acid and water. Their present experiments on the eggs of birds, reptiles, lizards, &c., appear to prove beyond a doubt the respiration of eggs during development. The results arrived at may be stated to be: 1st, that oxygen is absolutely indispensable to the evolution of the embryo of animals; 2d, that during the development of the embryo, eggs undergo a true respiration, characterised by an exhalation of carbonic acid, nitrogen, and water, and by an absorption of oxygen.

The drying up of the sap of trees struck by lightning, as asserted by M. Peltier and others, is denied by M. Clerget.

A new series of experiments on the formation of fat has been conducted by M. J. Persoz. His former conclusions were, that a goose fattened by maize not only assimilated the fat contained in the maize, but that itself formed a certain quantity at the expense of the starch and sugar of the seed, and perhaps also of its own matter, since the quantity of fat formed is generally more than double what is found in the maize. His new experiments were carried on with a view to ascertain whether the fatty body of maize was indispensable to the formation of fat. Looking to the results, he says it appears to him that the fact established is, that geese are capable of forming fat without the intervention of fatty matter; but also that maize exerts, by the oil it encloses, on the development of fat in geese an influence sufficiently marked to justify the pertinacity with which such distinguished chemists as MM. Boussingault, Dumas, and Payen, have supported the exclusive part this substance plays in the fattening of animals.

French Antiquarian Intelligence.—Near Aix, in Provence, there are still to be seen, built into the wall of a country residence, some large stones having figures sculptured in them in *intaglio*. They represent four allegorical personifications of Joy, Anger, Temperance, and Gluttony; they are, according to their costume, of the 12th century; and it is conjectured that these stones served as moulds for casting the figures that decorated the sides of leaden baptismal fonts. Several leaden fonts of that epoch still exist in France.—Much progress has been made of late in clearing away the rubbish that covered part of the Roman theatre at Arles. The semicircle is now quite cleared, and the orchestra has been found paved with various coloured marbles. Several fragments of statues, including the head of a youth in fine white Car-

rara marble, have been discovered in the rubbish.—A bas-relief has been recently found in a farm near Soissons, representing a procession on horseback, similar to that of the Hotel Bourgherould at Rouen, called the "Meeting of the Field of the Cloth of Gold." On this newly found bas-relief the horses and their riders are magnificently adorned; and the border of the whole, as well as the dresses, are of the 16th century. Under each personage was once sculptured a name, now defaced: one royal personage, however, has under him the words *Roy François de F*—; under another is the word *Olivier*; and under a third, *Le S. de Foix*. The arms of a bishop appear in it, those of the house of Foix, with a motto almost defaced, but containing the word *pacem*.—Prof. Huber of Berlin (author of the interesting work on the English universities) has just published a valuable dissertation in Latin on the Spanish *Romances*.—M. D'Avezac has communicated to the Geographical Society of Paris some curious information concerning early maps (of the 15th century) relating to Europe and the adjacent portions of Asia and Africa. These maps are prior to the ejection of the Arabs from Spain, and are preserved, one at Naples, the others at Paris.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD, Dec. 17.—The Rev. R. Croly, M.A., of Trinity College, Dublin, was admitted *ad eundem*.

The following degrees were conferred:—*Bachelors in Divinity*.—The Rev. W. Thompson, principal of St. Edmund Hall; the Rev. J. Hill, vice-principal of St. Edmund Hall; the Rev. J. A. Emerson, the Rev. J. Fisher, fellow, Magdalen College.

Masters of Arts.—E. Warner, Wadham Coll., grand compounder; Rev. C. J. Smith, Christ Church; Rev. A. H. Smith, St. Edmund Hall.

Bachelors of Arts.—C. Moody, Magdalen Hall; J. Gordon, St. Mary Hall; W. G. Clarke, Oriel College; R. Ogle, Brasenose Coll.; G. Scaife, Lincoln College.

CAMBRIDGE, Dec. 18. *Prize Subjects for 1845*.—The Chancellor's gold medal for the best English poem in heroic verse: subject, "Cabal."

The Camden gold medal for Latin hexameter verse: subject,

"Domus Albunæ resonantis,
Et præcepit Amicæ Tiburni lucus, et uda
Mobilibus pomaria rivis."

The Members' prizes of 15 guineas each for Latin prose composition:—1. For the Bachelors: "Quæ revera est civitas hominum, eadem civitas Dei sit necesse est." 2. For the Undergraduates: "In Platonis republicâ, dominantur rationes politicæ an morales?"

Sir W. Browne's gold medals, for the best Greek (Sapphic) and Latin (Alcæic) odes, and the best Greek and Latin epigrams: subjects—1. For the Greek ode, "Napoleon in insulam Divæ Helenæ relegatus." 2. For the Latin ode, "Eversosque focos antiquum gentis Etruscæ." 3. For the Greek epigram, *Idios ðmrov ταννός*. 4. For the Latin epigram, "Liber non potes et gulosus esse."

The Porson prize (the interest of 400*l.* stock), to undergraduates, for the best translation from Shakspeare, Ben Jonson, Massinger, or Beaumont and Fletcher, into Greek verse: subject, Shakspeare—*Hamlet*, act i. From the beginning of scene iii. to the words, "Though none else near." To be tragicum iambicum trimetrum acatalecticum.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR

THE ENSUING WEEK:—

Thursday.—Zoological, 3 P.M.

Friday.—Botanical, 8 P.M.

Saturday.—Asiatic, 2 P.M.; Westminster Medical, 8 P.M.

FINE ARTS.

BRONZE STATUARY.

From Munich, it is stated in the *Journal des Débats* that the head of a gigantic Statue of Bavaria, which is to be 68 feet high, was cast at the Royal Foundry on the 14th, in the presence of the king and queen, and a number of distinguished personages. The head has been

modelled by the celebrated Schwanthaler; and the operation alluded to was hailed with the chanting, by a band of 300 musicians, of a hymn composed for the occasion, and the enthusiastic chorus of the surrounding spectators. Thus are public works honoured on the continent, and cheered by the pride of national boasts. About a fortnight ago we witnessed the casting of a large portion of the equestrian group of the Duke of Wellington for the west end of London,—and a striking sight it was, though seen by only a few gentlemen and the workmen employed. The run from the furnace consisted of more than twenty tons of metal—the greatest quantity of brass (we are inclined to believe) that ever was molten together and so used in the world—and the effect was very extraordinary. The glowing stream, as it poured from the tap of the furnace along the channel prepared for it into the deep pits, was covered with vapours of unimaginable variety of colours and brilliancy; and above a canopy of dense cloud, reflecting and refracting the rays of light, was not the less grand from the knowledge that no living being could exist in that atmosphere for twenty seconds of time. The pits as they filled seemed masses of living fire; and when by ingenious machinery the plugs were removed to allow the liquid element to rush into the cast, the noise and blasts, like the discharge of artillery, was perfectly awful. The means adopted to ensure success in this vast and most difficult trial of art appeared to be adequate to its accomplishment; but so overpowering is the imprisoned heat, that we were informed even weeks must elapse before the cases and buildings can be removed, and the certainty of triumph or failure ascertained—a nervous affair for an artist, it must be acknowledged, when we mention that the cost of the material and the receptacles for its fusion and formation (into about half a horse!) amounted to no less a sum than from 3500*l.* to 3800*l.* We hope, and have reason to do so from external appearances, that all has gone well. And we also trust that this brief notice of a British work will be interesting to the British Public.

Palaeographia Sacra Pictoria, &c. By J. O. Westwood, F.L.S. London, W. Smith.

AMONG publications in regard to which our notices are most exposed to a partial disturbance are those (now so multiplied and distracting) which are issued at various periods in *Numbers* or *Parts*. The above is one of the most interesting of them; and has now reached Part VIII. with a degree of merit in research and beauty in execution to which we have hardly done the justice of commensurate observation. Its illustrations of ancient biblical and theological mss. (so forcibly brought to our recollection by Messrs. Longmans' copy of *Anne of Brittany's Diary*, see *Lit. Gaz.* No. 1456,) are selected with taste and judgment, and generally, with certain exceptions, commented upon with skill and ability. Some of them bear considerable resemblance to the splendid work to which we have just referred; and others, if correctly less sumptuous, are no less accurate fac-similes or representations of their originals. The most rude and grotesque are equally examples of the ages to which they belong, and the state of the arts in the locality where they were produced, as the most rich and refined. Looking only at the last two fasciculi, we have a barbarous Virgin and Child from the famous Book of Kells (plate 1), and illuminated letters and specimens of the text from the same. There are birds, beasts, and reptiles, which would do honour to the earliest

forms in geology; and complicated figures, so blended, that the polytheism of the earth might delight in their monstrosity. The Gospels of St. Augustine and St. Cuthbert offer subjects scarcely more graceful, though they are more intelligible; and the Prayer Book of Mary of Burgundy presents a *Salvator Mundi*, coloured on azure and gold, with whiskers, moustaches, and a double-pointed beard. A ms. in Theotice (the ancient language of the Franks) is very curious, both for its character and rarity.

In Part VIII. we have, *inter alia*, illustrations of the Gospels of *Saint Regol*; but here we must enter our caveat against this fine ms. being considered to be in "true Hibernian style." On the contrary, it is exactly the Anglo-Saxon style, borrowed originally from the continent, and must have been done by an Irishman who was educated among the Saxons. The gloss appears to be considerably later than the text, which is that of the end of the seventh century; and in our opinion it could hardly have been written by Mac Riagail, who died in 820. The Editor says, in a note, "the Anglo-Saxon contraction used for *vel* resembles a *t*, or rather was written *t* with a bar, being the contraction of the Anglo-Saxon word *lice*, like, *alias*, and not of the Latin word *vel*, as supposed by Whittaker." In this we deem Mr. Westwood to be decidedly wrong. The *t* with the bar is well known to be the Latin contraction for *vel*, and is found in all Latin mss.; and was introduced into Anglo-Saxon mss. by Latin scribes. It has nothing to do with *lice*. In his remarks on ancient French mss. which follow, we think Mr. Westwood has also erroneously confounded pure French with Anglo-Norman mss. written in England. The latter are English in style; and differ much in the hand-writing and ornamentation from the former. This ought to be carefully attended to.

The illuminations from the *Sonean Clivio* and so-named French mss. are strangely different: the former might furnish ideas to modern art, the latter to the outside attractions of show-booths at country fairs.

Notwithstanding such slight mistakes as we have pointed out, we trust that this spirited and remarkable publication is valued as it ought to be, and rewards the expenditure bestowed upon it.

Analysis of Gothic Architecture. Nos. II. III. 4to. London, P. Richardson; Oxford, Parker; Cambridge, Stevenson.

RESOLVING into minutiae and first principles, this publication is to Gothic architecture what the alphabet and grammar are to literature. Nothing can exceed the pains-taking of the artist, in detecting every form and combination in wood and stone, and making accurate drawings of them; and thus leading on to the complete developments of these designs, as we see them in our noblest cathedrals and other ancient structures. As a production of great merit and utility, we have to call attention to it, and the more earnestly as there is no art now practised in which so many follies are committed by the ignorant and tasteless, as in the imitation of what they are pleased to call and fancy "Gothic."

The Ecclesiastical Architecture of Great Britain from the Conquest to the Reformation. By Henry and James Hadfield, Architects. Parts I. and II. London, J. W. Parker.

WHILST these scientific and artistic publications are confined to their earlier lying in *Numbers*, we can do no more for them than indicate the promise they hold out when they shall become more mature. These parts are

devoted to Norbury Church, in Derbyshire—remote from public ways, and possessing both great beauty and interest—the illustrations of which are very handsome, the architectural plans and details sufficient and good, and the painted windows rich and curious.

Sacred Architecture, &c. By Richard Brown, Esq., Prof. of Architecture. Parts I. and II. London, Fishers.

FROM the earliest period of recorded time, Egypt, Greece, and Rome, furnish the monuments and subjects for this comprehensive and finely illustrated work, so far as these Parts extend. The numerous plates are quite worthy of *The Caxton Press*, from which so many highly popular publications of this class have emanated.

Pictorial Natural History of the Three Kingdoms, &c. Nos. 1, 2, 3. London, Ewer and Co., Brain and Co.; Manchester, J. Ainsworth.

THE geological portion from the German of Lindner and Lachmann, this popularly conceived publication commences favourably; and is gaily decked with wildernesses of monkeys, and legions of peacocks, parrots, toucans, turkeys, bats, bears, otters, porcupines, and other birds and beasts; all of which look droll and credible enough in their various feathers and furs, and in their habits as they live.

Alphabets, Numerals, and Devices of the Middle Ages. By Henry Shaw, F.S.A. London, W. Pickering.

WE have one odd No., and three marked in pen and ink, Nos. 7, 8, and 9, of this very curious, and, to the antiquary, in many respects very useful production before us. The remarkable copies of letters from *Fust* and *Schoiffer's Bible*, from missals of various ages, from tombs, from old gospels, histories, and romances, and other sources, even ancient stalls in churches, and what were designed like ribands, and thence called riband letters, are well worth preservation in this handsome form. The more carefully we study these remains of the middle ages, the more do we discover to inform and interest us. They are like portraits of the literature and ornament fancied by our forefathers; and it is a pleasing speculation in which to indulge, when we let our minds ponder on their tastes and the efforts to gratify them in these respects.

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

MR. DICKENS AND SIR P. LAURIE.

A LETTER signed "Amicus," which we have received, and is vouched by a writer of high standing and character, for whom we entertain strong sentiments of esteem, has placed us in a painful predicament. It states certain facts in regard to the caricature character of Alderman Cute, in Mr. Dickens' *Chimes*, and asks our public opinion on the circumstances, as deeply affecting private life, the wholesome repute of the press, and the personal position of the author. After stating the particulars of a considerable interchange of courtesies between the parties, those conferred by the worthy magistrate throwing the weight of obligation upon Mr. D. as they procured his access to prisons, asylums, &c., so as to aid his literary views, our correspondent requests us to say "whether, under the rules which have hitherto regulated social life in the respectable walks of society, Mr. Dickens is justified in endeavouring to lampoon and satirise one who, until the publication of the work, was under the delusion that Mr. D. and he were personal friends?" In our last *Gazette*, both in reviewing the *Chimes* and the Adelphi drama founded upon them, we can-

didly expressed our sentiments upon the mere general consideration of the matter, and uninfluenced by any other motive. If rightly understood upon the point brought here more directly to issue, we meant, and mean to declare, that if Mr. Dickens took up even a stranger, and made him the object of individual ridicule, it would be an offence altogether unworthy of his talents; for it would exhibit him as the painter of indifferent and incorrect portrait (the lowest grade of pictorial or literary art), instead of being the delineator of *species* out of which to convey useful lessons to mankind. And if, in addition to this great error in judgment, he were further to outrage propriety by sacrificing cordial intimacy and home feelings on the altar of clap-trap, we should unhesitatingly, and in no measured terms, denounce the anti-social crime.

But we have maturely thought over this charge, and it does seem to us to be capable of a different solution. Intimate with both for years, and knowing their characters, we are convinced that Mr. Dickens could never intend to hold up Sir Peter Laurie to *personal* disrespect, although he has not sufficiently guarded against that unfortunate misconception. We can imagine that the unlucky words "put down" (though employed in the most laudable and beneficial sense on the occasion where they occurred) gave birth in the mind of an author to an abstract idea, and that in working out and amplifying his impersonation of that idea, irrelevant of all collateral connexion, he undesignedly fastened a stigma upon a man whom he would be the first to acknowledge as a most efficient magistrate, and a justly esteemed member of society. We are inclined to believe that except in these words "put down," spoken by Sir Peter Laurie on the bench, when directing his judicial and judicious aim against the guilt or folly of suicides, Mr. Dickens never once thought of the gentleman to whom this single reference has caused the rest of the impersonation to be erroneously applied.

This being an explanation of the fact at issue, we have no reluctance to quote some further reflections, as bearing upon all literature, from the letter of Amicus.

"It appears to me (he says) important to those who may have any literary acquaintances, to know whether any new canon of friendship has been promulgated by authority, by which they are to enjoy the advantage of a prior claim to being assailed and 'shewn up' over strangers in the publications of those who have hitherto been considered 'safe' persons to admit into society. It seems to me a graver question affecting social life than a superficial view would call for. It may be said, 'if the cap fits, let him wear it'; that is hardly so. A satirist may describe one trait or act which fixes the identity of the person attacked, and add offensive colouring in other respects which is gross and unfounded. The novel but really wholesome and humane course adopted by the magistrate in question, on the subject of suicide, fixes the identity: the coarse language and brutal inhumanity are scandalous misrepresentations, best refuted by those who know his exertions in the cause of humanity, but which may be considered equally accurate with the other conduct by those who are strangers. But what is the fact with respect to suicide? In 1841, in two months, there were twenty-three attempts at suicide by drowning at Blackfriars Bridge. Pathos and pity only seemed to increase the evil, and Sir Peter Laurie committed the next person brought before him, for trial. That he

was right in law was proved by the grand jury finding a true bill, and a petty jury convicting the prisoner; that he was acting with real humanity to the public was proved by the fact, that in the two following months (proverbially suicidal, according to the French) of November and December, the number, instead of being twenty-three, was reduced to two. Judging by facts, this plan is not only law and common sense, but the soundest practical humanity: facts, however, are at war with fiction, and practical humanity with mawkish sensibility. Awaiting your opinion—I am, your obedient servant,

AMICUS.

I ought to add, that this communication is made without any knowledge of it on the part of the gentleman the object of Mr. Dickens' attack."

From ourselves we have only to repeat, that if Mr. Dickens could have intentionally laboured to lampoon an individual, we should have deemed it disgraceful to his justly-earned fame, and altogether at variance with the spirit of his pen. Personality is the odium of the scurrilous publications which have nothing else to attract notoriety; but in all Mr. Dickens' preceding works we find a genial, humane, benevolent, and commiserating tendency to recommend them to our hearts, if not a loftiness to exalt them to our imaginations. To presume, therefore, that he has, in this instance, stepped out of his way and abandoned his nature, in order to expose to derision a neighbour and friend to whom he was indebted for advantageous civilities, would be unintelligible. But, on the other hand, it is the easiest thing in the world to suppose, that with the suggestion of only two words, out of which to create a representative of a class (as Filer is a representative of the class statistical-utilitarian), the writer never once dreamed of the part being identified with a person whose widely-exercised humanity and services to the poor and unfortunate have raised him so high among the valued benefactors of his fellow-creatures.

THE DRAMA.

Drury Lane.—Here, after Balfe's opera, a crowded house witnessed the pantomime of *Harlequin and Robinson Crusoe*, which has been so fully described by anticipation in the theatrical advertisements, that we need not go into the story. We doubt the wisdom of raising expectations in this way: like the pictures outside of show-booths, they excite more expectation than can be gratified within. A considerable effort has been made to produce a good piece, and when reduced to order and worked with ease, we dare say it will serve the needful purpose of holiday entertainment.

Covent Garden.—With only short time for preparation, a great push has been made at Covent Garden, and it started for its short season on boxing-night with an inaudible version of *George Barnwell*, and a pantomime called *Harlequin Crotchet and Quaver*; or, *Music for the Million*, which depended rather on introduced dances and feats of agility than on its merits as a harlequinade for its success. However, it will doubtless serve its turn when the machinery and scenery will do their duty; which they never do on first nights. The company with which Mr. Laurent proposes to carry on his thirty nights, if not very first-rate, is at least extensive enough to ensure novelty, which is promised in rapid succession. Young Betty, Vandenhoff, and his daughter, and the lyrical tragedy of *Antigone*, with Mendelssohn's music, are to be the first stars.

Haymarket.—Bourcicault's comedy, a panorama, charmingly painted and effected by Mr. Philips, and a fairy extravaganza written by Mr. Planché, and founded on the Countess D'Anois' *Graciosa and Percinet*, were the three courses at the Haymarket; their success was their dessert. The panorama represents a tour in Switzerland, and is a very beautiful and artistic composition, with many pleasing effects of light and shade during its progress, which is terminated with quite a picture of Geneva. The burlesque is tolerably full of telling points, is put upon the stage with every attention to scenery, dresses, &c., and is acted as well as burlesque can be by Misses P. Horton and Julia Bennett, Mrs. Stanley, and the prince of all kings of Brentford, Mr. J. Bland. All the minor characters are also fairly sustained.

Princess's.—The Christmas burlesque here—called *Joe Miller and his Men*—is a quiz more especially upon that staple theatrical commodity called *mealodram*, in compliment to the miller. If we except a very pretty scene, painted by Mr. Beverly, there is not much to admire in the piece, and perhaps less to laugh at, some of the jokes being very old Joes; there is, however, a tolerable bit at Mr. Bunn's "blaze of triumph" in the scene of the robber's cave, an immense cavern on the plan of the great scene in the *Daughter of St. Mark*. The melody-music is clever: polkas, pathetic ballads, and banjo songs, being made to charm the ear in concert. The success of the piece was rather questionable.

Adelphi.—The illness of one of the most important characters in a pantomime, the machinist, rendered the harlequinade at the Adelphi less successful than might otherwise have been expected. It is called *Cats' Castle*; or, *Harlequin and the King of the Rats*, and has a good average of fun and point; but, alas for the unruly scenery, these were almost thrown away upon the audience, nor could the manoeuvres of harlequin, columbine, clown, or pantaloons, get over the difficulty. This, however, is easy of remedy; and when cured, the Adelphi pantomime will take its stand as good as its contemporaries. Mr. Mitchenson is worthy of mention for the fun he threw into the character of a great grimalkin.

Lyceum.—The *Chimes*, by Dickens, was dramatised here on Thursday; Keeley playing *Trotty Veck*, and Mrs. Keeley his daughter. "Here we are," and "here we go," and the trot of Trotty, were the only points. The version and scenic representation are inferior to the Adelphi arrangements. The Christmas piece, *Valentine and Orson*, at this house, is in two acts; the first, the return of *Valentine* (Mr. Keeley) to Orleans and his reception by King Pepin, affords opportunity for a burlesque of the city procession, ridicule of proclamations, accountability of the lord mayor, display of war-trophies, gates, parasol, &c., with smart dialogue. The forest-scene, too, with Orson (Keeley) and Bruina (Collier) was well done, ending with a good view of Orleans in the distance. The second act is devoted principally to the transformation of maids of honour into soldiers, with the *Princess Eglantine* (Miss Farebrother) at their head, a review of them, with marchings and counter-marchings. It is comparatively slow, with the exception of Wigan's clever acting. The closing oracular jokes of the brazen head are too stale to produce their full effect.

The Olympic.—An amusing entertainment was produced here, called *Old Bogie*; and what with masks, tricks, transformations, and dancing, recommended itself strongly to a full house,

whose good report will deservedly fill it many times to see a clever pantomime.

Strand.—Opened, after a short recess, with a revival of the *Christmas Carol*, a farcical affair called the *Chinese Exhibition*, and the *Knight and the Sprite* burlesque, already favourably reported in our pages.

Sadlers' Wells.—*Robin Hood* after *The Stranger* (as much a stranger after the performance as before) amused the many here with notions of old England and young. It is, we believe, the production of Mr. T. Greenwood, the spirited lessee; and when better understood (for the subject is not popularly familiar) will rank among the most attractive of the season-freaks.

Atley's.—This theatre enjoys an advantage over all its contemporaries on the first night of a pantomime; namely, it is of no consequence how noisy the gods may be, as the dumb actors on four feet are quite as intelligible in the midst of riot and confusion as they are in calm and quiet. The consequence of this was, that last night the Fox Hunt was infinitely entertaining. The pantomime, founded on Johnny Gilpin's ride, with its fairies, horses, machinery, blue fire, &c. &c., was capitally produced, and is, we should imagine, likely to be one of the most sought after by the young holiday folks.

We see that Mr. Batty announces a series of day entertainments for the holidays. The idea is a good one: but more of this next week.

Exeter Hall.—The more frequently the Sacred Harmonic Society give their delightful musical entertainments, the more and more public relish seems to increase. On Friday evening last week, the *Messiah* was admirably performed, and the Hall crowded.

Mr. Horn's Concerts.—On Saturday evening Mr. Horn commenced a series of musical lectures and concerts of a novel character; of which, if we may judge from this specimen, the popular acceptance is likely to be deservedly warm. We are, however, prevented from offering any critical observations till the course is farther advanced. Much of what Mr. Horn said and did was loudly applauded.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

ODE ON MUSIC.

As the moon rules the ocean,
Sweet music rules the soul;
Each tide of wild emotion
Obeys her soft control.
The heart's deep founts unsealing
With more than magic skill,
She bids the waves of feeling
Ebb and flow at her will.

Her language is the dearest
To memory a lay,
Of "and lang syne" brings nearest
Scenes and friends far away:
The absent, the departed,
Those well-known sounds restore,
And mourners, lonely-hearted,
Are with the loved once more.

As the rock pour'd its waters,
"Touch'd by the prophet's wand,
The passions, Nature's daughters,
Gush forth at music's hand.
The coldest bosom swaying,
She stirs the rocky springs;
And on warmer pulses playing,
To rapture wakes the strings.

At her light dancing measure
With such transport we glow,
That tears—ay, tears of pleasure,
Down our cheeks gently flow.
Dearer yet her tones of sadness!
How in sympathy we sigh!
Something sweeter far than gladness
Melts the heart and fills the eye.

Her war-songs, how inspiring!
What tumults they excite!
What thrills electric firing
The breast with fierce delight!
The battle-storm rolls o'er us,
The trumpet's tempest peal;
Hark! the cannon's thunder-chorus!
See! the lightning-flashing steel!

And when the organ raises
In old cathedral fane
Its voice of prayer and praises,
Oh, how divine the strain!
The swelling anthem urges
Our souls to soar on high,
Borne on those billowy surges
Of music to the sky.

'Twere shame if music's lyre
To earth alone were given!
Hence the angelic choir
Sing to their harps in heaven!
Hers is the language spoken
In the bright spheres above—
The spheres where reign unbroken
Blest harmony and love.

ELEANOR DABBY.

VARIETIES.

The Christmas-Tree is a German Christmas pastime for the youthful fruits of the family vine, and seems to us to be worthy of adoption in our holiday juvenile festivities. We see specimens of it in the shop-windows of Messrs. Haehlen, and other German houses for the sale of dried meats, pickles, preserves, fruits, &c., and have a short description (published by Darton and Clark) before us, and a pleasing Child's book, illustrating an old custom, and infusing good moral sentiments. We are the more induced to notice this little composition on account of the almost quaint and (not to misuse the word) Gothic, or rather ancient Saxon, simplicity of its style. When not carried too far, nor applied to ineligible subjects, it is wonderfully effective; and we are happy to recommend this small affair of some dozen pages to parents and teachers, as well calculated (as far as its limits allow) to inculcate social love, benevolence, and religious feeling, into the least-informed minds of the rising generation.

General Tom Thumb.—Amongst the holiday amusements we must spare a corner to announce the return of General Tom Thumb from his tour in Scotland and Ireland, in which he has been picking up plenty of shillings and several new sketches of character. With these he is entertaining his numerous admirers at his levees in Suffolk Street.

New Waterloo Model.—The former model of the entire field and battle of Waterloo, so popular for a very long period, will be fresh in the memory of many of our readers. The only drawback to general gratification in that extensive work was the minuteness of the scale and the comprehensiveness of the scheme: none but those versed in military operations, or technically acquainted with the evolutions of the troops engaged on that memorable day, could realise the model. But to the present one no such drawback attaches; one of the several prominent and critical features of the battle is taken, and the dispositions and movements of the attacking and attacked, of the conquered and conquerors, can be readily comprehended. The period selected is the first grand movement made by Napoleon on the centre and left wing of the Duke's line, defeated by the British—the engagement in which the brave Picton fell. We need not, however, describe in detail—few will fail to judge for themselves: it is truly a most interesting exhibition. The scale of the model is 27 feet to a mile, the ground occupied being about three-fourths of a mile in extent, with

the barley, rye, clover, potato-fields, hedges, the Charleroi road, the orchard and farm of La Haye Sainte, &c. most admirably represented. It is Captain Siborne's intention to execute a series of additional models on a similar scale; the whole of which, when put together, would constitute the most complete model of a battle ever projected. The completion of the design depends on public favour and support. Captain Siborne deserves national as well as general individual encouragement and aid.

The New Panorama is a view of the city and bay of Naples by moonlight. This is, we believe, the first and very successful attempt at panoramic effect with this subdued light, but advantage has been most judiciously and ably taken of an eruption of Mount Vesuvius to bring out the marked features of the lovely scene. The glare of lurid light strikes full upon the architectural masses here and there, and stretches on to illuminate the distant hills, previously, however, in its passage across the bay having lit up the rig and cordage of the various craft. The local fires of the boats, too, are admirably managed to bring numerous groups into view, and the stars shine intensely bright. Altogether the effect is very fine, and adds to the credit of the already popular productions of Messrs. Burford and Selous.

Theatricals.—Among the features, if not signs, of the times, pantomimes are now being performed, not only at the theatres generally known to the public, but at the "Marylebone," the "Eagle Tavern," the "Garriek," the "New Royal Standard," the "Britannia Saloon," the "City of London," and we know not how many more. And even beyond this, there are a great many licensed taverns where concerts of vocal and instrumental music are performed every night, the entrance-price being generally twopenny or threepenny.

Thomas Hood.—We rejoice to see it stated that this popular writer has been distinguished by a pension from the crown. His long-continued precarious health, unfitting him for the ceaseless application of his genius, so essential to the existence, not to say the comfort, of strugglers in literature, renders this boon one of peculiar gratification. To his merits as an author, which have so justly entitled him to this recognition, we have too often borne our most cordial testimony to render it proper to repeat our sentiments of admiration for talents original and unique, and a general benevolence of purpose and kindly feeling for the poor and suffering, which no overflowing of fun and humour could ever intercept. Equally eminent for a curious, quaint, and grotesque vein of piquant and laughable drollery, and for a depth of natural pathos, of which he has given instances unsurpassed in our language, we heartily pray that Mr. Hood may live long to delight the public, and taste the benefit of the acknowledgment so discriminatingly and handsomely bestowed.

George Woodfall, Esq., in the 78th year of his age, died, in Dean's Yard, Westminster, on Sunday last. He was during his long life a respected printer, and the successor to the name and business rendered so famous by the publications of Junius; in the controversies respecting whom he took a distinguished part. Mr. Woodfall was a fair example of the honourable London tradesman, straightforward, well-meaning, and firm in acting up to what he considered to be just and right. Of such individuals, even errors in judgment (should they occur) are morally laudable, and the consequent mistakes socially to be excused, because they

are the results of a warm integrity, and set the party far above the sphere of ordinary trimmers and too numerous band of the unsteady and hypocritical. Few men of his station ever descended into the grave more esteemed by his many business connexions and friendly associates for his sound principles, honest dealings, and unimpeachable conduct, than Mr. George Woodfall.

Odd Clerical Title.—The French newspapers mention the return to France of *M. Barron*, the Roman Catholic bishop of the *Two Guineas*. It was always alleged against the Church of Rome that it desired to place itself above *severigns*.

Christmas Carol.—The following is a verbatim specimen of a Christmas carol, as sung by gipsies on Tuesday eve at Arborfield, Berks: "The moon shines bright, and the stars give a light

A little before 'tis day;
Our Lord, our God, he calls on us all,
And he bids us to wake and pray.

Awake, awake, good people all:

How Christ he suffer'd on the cross,

And for our sins was slain.

So teach your children well, dear man,

Whilst that they are young;

It will be better for your soul, dear man,

When your corpse lies under ground.

To-day you may be alive, dear man,

With many a hundred pound;

To-morrow you may be dead, dear man,

And be closed all under ground.

With a green patch to your head, dear man,

Another at your feet,

Your good deeds and your bad ones too

Before the Lord shall meet.

For hell is deep, and hell is grim,

And hell is full again;

I pray God grant as no poor soul

Shall part from Jesus Christ.

The fields are gay, the meadows green,

As green as e'er a leek;

Our Lord he oft-times waters them

With heavenly dew so sweet."

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Hints on Life; or, how to Rise in Society, by C. B. C. Amicus, fcp. 8vo, 5s.—**Practical Astronomy and Geodesy, for the Use of the Royal Military College,** by J. Narrien, F.R.S., 8vo, 14s. 6d.—**The Art of Weaving by Hand and by Power,** by C. G. Gilroy, royal 8vo, 11s. 6d.—**The Vandaids,** by E. Henderson, D.D., post 8vo, 6s.—**Tom Buetquet and his Three Maiden Aunts,** post 8vo, 2s.—**Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation,** 2d edit. post 8vo, 7s. 6d.—**Christmas Roses, and other Tales,** sq. 3s. 6d. plain; 4s. 6d. coloured.—**Hampton Court; or, the Prophecy fulfilled,** 3 vols. post 8vo, 11s. 6d.—**Diaries and Correspondence of the Earl of Malmesbury, Vols. III. and IV.** 8vo, 30s.—**Vacation Rambles and Thoughts,** by T. N. Talford, 2 vols. post 8vo, 18s.—**The Pope and the Gospel; or, another Farewell to Rome,** by J. J. Maurette, 18mo, 1s. 6d.—**Thoughts on God's Word,** by the Rev. E. Dalton, 18mo, 1s.—**The Duties of Judge-Advocates,** by Capt. R. M. Hughes, post 8vo, 7s.—**Old England, Vol. I.** fol. 17. 2s. 6d.—**Knights' Library for the Times: the French Revolution,** by C. M'Farlane, 12mo, 6s.—**Memorials of the Life and Works of T. Fuller, D.D.,** by the Rev. A. T. Russell, fcp. 6s.—**Outlines of Man's True Interest,** by T. C. Boone, fcp. 7s. 6d.—**Small Books on Great Subjects, No. VII.** Christian Doctrine and Practice in the Second Century, fcp. 3s. 6d.—**Manual of British Histories to A.D. 1600,** 8vo, 9s. half-bd.—**Birds and Insects,** by Jane Barker, 16mo, 3s. 6d.—**Fraits of Private Life,** by L. A., 12mo, 8s.—**Beauties of the Opera, with Portraits, &c.** royal 8vo, 11s. 6d. morocco.—**Fortunes of Frank Fairfield: a Tale of the Sea,** by M. H. Barker, royal 18mo, 3s. 6d.—**Chambers' Miscellany of Useful and Entertaining Tracts, Vol. I.** fcp. 1s.—**S. Mullen's Poems,** post 8vo, with 23 Vignettes, 12s.—**Mount Sorel,** by the Author of "Two Old Men's Tales," 12mo, 3s. 6d.—**Recollections of Military Service, 1813-14,** and 15, by Sergeant T. Morris, post 8vo, 7s. 6d.—**Sketches of the Coal Mines in Northumberland and Durham,** by T. H. Hair, imp. 4to, 3s.—**Rodenhurst; or, the Church and the Manor,** by E. M. S., 3 vols. post 8vo, 11s. 6d.—**Fisher's Instructor; or, Young Man's Best Companion,** new edit. by Wright, 12mo, 3s.—**G. P. R. James's Works, Vol. III.** The Huguenot, 8vo, 8s.

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME.

[This table shows the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

1844.	h. m. s.	1844.	h. m. s.
Dec. 28	12 13 14	Dec. 30	12 59 7
29	— 2 30 6	31	— 3 28 5

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

67 We should feel obliged to correspondents and editors of the provincial press who every week favour us with copies of journals from the country, kindly intended to direct our attention to some novelty or acceptable information, if they would by some mark indicate where we are to find it. The immense size of many newspapers now is such that to find what is wished, you must look as long and as sharp as for a needle in a bottle of hay; and time with us is precious.

We cannot publish A. P. P.—, the letter on the Antiquaries' Society, but W. P.—, E.— (though apparently a feeling lady).

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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W. T. FAWCETT, Secretary.

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